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PETROL PRICES FUELLING RISE IN CRIME

More 'drive offs' hitting the pumps

EXCLUSIVE

By MEGHAN McKEIG

FUEL theft has risen dramatically across Kent as petrol prices at the pump soar, new figures show.

Kent Police said there have been 24 per cent more reports of motorists driving off without paying from garages and service stations compared to last year.

Figures obtained by Kent on Sunday reveal there were 896 such offences in January to May 2008 – up from 730 during the same period last year.

Meanwhile, siphoning theft has risen from 89 offences in January to May 2007 to 123 this year – an increase of nearly 40 per cent.

In the 12 months to June 2008 the average price for a litre of diesel has risen by 40 per cent to £1.32, while the average price for petrol is £1.18.

And the Tunbridge Wells-based Freight Transport Association (FTA) warned that fuel theft could escalate further.

"The higher the price of fuel gets the more incidents there will be," said spokesman Geoff Dossetter.

The South East National Farmers' Union said members had reported an increase in thefts of red diesel, which is used to power farm equipment.

Petrol giant BP told KoS it loses more than £1 million a year nationally through motorists driving off without paying.

Brian Macdowall, Kent spokesman for the Association of British Drivers, said, "Soaring fuel prices will force garage owners to insist on pre-payments to combat rising levels of crime at the pump."

He raised concerns that if fuel prices continued to soar, small petrol stations could be forced to close.

Kent Police said it was attempting to deter fuel thieves through a poster campaign at the county's petrol stations.

A spokeswoman said driving away without paying for petrol or diesel could result in a criminal record.

She added: "We also urge those with static tanks of fuel to make sure they are secure and to use chains and padlocks where possible. Farmers and those living in more isolated locations can join Country Eye, which is similar to Neighbourhood Watch schemes."

Asked if BP would consider switching to a 'pay at the pump' scheme, where motorists have to pay before filling up, a spokesman said: "We are constantly reviewing and updating our security."

A spokeswoman from supermarket chain Morrisons said: "Morrisons takes the issue of 'drive offs' very seriously and have introduced a range of preventative measures across their stores.

"All incidents are reported to the police and evidence supplied in order that offenders can be prosecuted."

BP said 'drive offs' were dangerous for other customers on the forecourt if thieves escaped at high speeds.

Ray Holloway, of the Petrol Retailers Association, said: "The value of the loss is greater [to petrol stations] because the value of fuel is greater."

But he said that fuel theft was not "out of hand" and that there had always been problems with the crime.

A farmer's wife from County Durham died from a heart attack after disturbing a man raiding the farm's tank this week.

Picture: GETTY IMAGES

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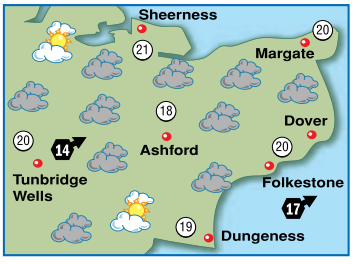
Kent today



TODAY: Some sunshine is expected both early and late in the day but it will otherwise be rather cloudy. Mostly dry apart from the odd light shower. Moderate south-westerly winds. Max temp 18-21C (64-70F).
TONIGHT: Clear spells and variable cloud. Moderate south-westerly winds. Min temp 9-12C (48-54F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	fair	17	63	London	fair	18	64
Belfast	cloudy	19	66	Liverpool	cloudy	21	70
Birmingham	showers	17	63	Manchester	drizzle	18	64
B'mouth	cloudy	19	66	Newcastle	fair	18	64
Bristol	cloudy	16	61	Norwich	cloudy	21	70
Cardiff	cloudy	18	64	Oxford	cloudy	19	66
Cork	cloudy	17	63	Southsea	cloudy	18	64
Edinburgh	cloudy	18	64	S'hampton	fair	18	64
Glasgow	rain	17	63	Southport	fair	18	64
Isle of Man	fair	16	61	Swansea	rain	17	63
Leeds	showers	17	63	Torquay	cloudy	18	64

Sun & moon

Sunrise	4.40am	Sunset	9.17pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	1.03am	Moonset	5.36pm	9.17pm to 4.41am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
	ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)	
Dover	07.48	5.8	20.14	6.0	08.54	5.9	21.19	6.1
Margate	08.58	4.1	21.06	4.2	10.03	4.2	22.16	4.3
St Mary's	01.13	4.7	13.50	4.7	02.23	4.8	14.57	4.9

Week ahead

monday Occasional sun. max 21C min 11C
thursday Showers. max 22C min 12C
tuesday Dry and warm. max 23C min 14C
friday Some sunshine. max 21C min 12C
wednesday Warm. Showers. max 24C min 13C
saturday Cloudy. max 21C min 12C

Ski event is set to make a real splash

THE European Water Ski Racing Championships head to Thanet next weekend and the action promises to make a real splash, ***writes Tom Betts***.

Ramsgate's Royal Harbour marina will host up to 70 waterskiers over the course of the competition to see who rules the waves in many different classes and categories over four days of racing.

The event takes place from Saturday, July 5, when the opening ceremony will be held at 4pm, with the competitors and their boats parading down the Royal Parade to the harbour.

The first of the races then start the next day, with the Euro kids A and B races from 11am.

The action continues through the day with women's, juniors' and men's events getting underway from 12.30-4.30pm, with the first of the prize giving presentations taking place from 5.30pm.

Excellent

The championships are designed to establish the best skiers in the EAMA region, which includes Europe, Africa, and the Middle East so a truly multi-cultural line up of competitors will take to the water to thrill the crowds with their high-speed antics.

Britain, Belgium, Holland, Spain, Germany, France and Austria will all have representatives taking part.

Tony Williams, the British Water Ski chairman of racing, and GB Team captain, said: "The Ramsgate venue is excellent, providing super viewing and accommodation facilities.

"The harbourmaster and his team have worked tirelessly in conjunction with British Water Ski and have consulted us every step of the way in order to present a memorable event."

Racing will be held on Sunday (July 6), Tuesday (July 8), Thursday (July 10) and Saturday (July 12).

On the first three days between 11am-4.30pm, with racing on the final day taking place from 10am-3.45pm.

A fireworks display will mark the end of the week's racing at 10.30pm on Saturday, July 12.

It is the first time the championships have been staged in the town.

The council's cabinet member for culture and economy, Cllr Roger Latchford said: "Following the success of Margate's Big Event, this really does look set to be another major draw for both visitors and residents."

He added: "We're delighted to be welcoming this to the town and seeing the new European champions being crowned right here in Ramsgate. This is set to be a superb spectator event for people to enjoy over the course of a week."

Visit www.skirace.net or www.britishwaterski.org.uk for a programme of events.

War of words over naming and shaming of schools

A LEADING politician has slammed the Schools Secretary over the recent naming and shaming of more than 30 schools said to be 'failing' across Kent.

Ed Balls launched the National Challenge earlier this month which included a list of 638 schools nationally where 30 per cent of pupils fail to get A* to C grades at GCSE including maths and English.

Schools face closure or could be turned into academies if they fail to improve by 2011.

Chris Wells, Kent County Council's cabinet member for education, wrote a letter to Mr Balls criticising the "questionable focus" of the strategy on Monday.

He told Kent on Sunday he felt compelled to write because "someone had to tell him".

The list included 33 Kent schools, the most out of all local authorities, which was put down to the county's selective schooling system because the top scoring 25 per cent of pupils went to grammar schools.

"I wonder if you truly understand the damage you are doing to the morale of teachers, headteachers and even pupils," he questioned in the letter.

Cllr Wells told Mr Balls that the authority had been inundated with letters of support from parents for Kent schools on the list.

'Outstanding'

"Stories that use emotive terms such as 'failing', 'closures' and 'struggling' do absolutely nothing to stimulate confidence among teachers, pupils and parents.

"In fact, each group has spoken out en masse in response to the questionable focus of your National Challenge," he said.

He called on Mr Balls to "stop this divisive campaign in the press" calling it a "political point scoring exercise".

Cllr Wells staunchly defended the county's schools, which he said had "an exemplary education system".

"I am also surprised you have not checked your facts," he wrote."The schools in Kent you so boldly announced as struggling are in actual fact thriving and improving."

He said two of the Kent schools listed had been described as 'outstanding' in Ofsted inspection and 14 were classed as 'good'.

Cllr Wells expects all schools listed to have exceeded the 30 per cent target by 2011.

He took the opportunity to criticise the Government's academy programme, saying: "The school I am most concerned about reaching this [target] is an academy, which if I recall correctly is Labour Government's flagship scheme for turning around failing schools. I am still waiting to see the results."

A KCC spokeswoman said the authority was yet to hear back from Mr Balls.

A DCSF spokeswoman said: "We have never labelled National Challenge schools as failing… There are many rapidly improving secondary modern schools in Kent, and several are close to the 30 per cent benchmark."

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A British winner served up at SW19

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

FOR more than 15 years a Kent farm has been exclusively supplying the world-famous strawberries served up at the Wimbledon tennis championships.

Pickers are up early to ensure tennis fans get the very best punnets on the planet.

A small army of pickers takes to the fields before 5am at Hugh Lowe Farms in Mereworth to harvest the first of the 100,000 strawberries needed to keep supplies running to FMC Caterers, the firm that sells them at the All England Lawn Tennis Club in south west London.

It takes just 45 minutes by road to reach SW19. The strawberries are picked in the morning, sorted in the afternoon and delivered in time for the following day's matches. Some 28,000kg of strawberries from the Kent farm will be eaten during Wimbledon fortnight using 8,000 punnets every day, covered in a total of 7,000 litres of fresh cream. And the 450,000 fans don't seem to be put off by the first price rise in five years, of 25p to £2.25 for 10 strawberries, especially as a centre court final ticket is £91.

Farm boss Marion Regan said: "Wimbledon is an iconic event and the strawberry season peaks at the same time, so you could not get a better marriage.

"We have been here as a family farm since 1893, so we know our strawberries. Kent is wonderful for growing them – it has the right climate and soil that drains nicely. Strawberries don't like getting their feet wet. This is not called the Garden of England for nothing.

"We are able to deliver quickly which makes them very fresh and they are eaten within a day.

"FMC want the very best strawberries every year. In this business you are only as good as the last load you sent, so we are all aware that every single strawberry has to be good. We don't want to disappoint anybody. They keep us on our toes every year."

Spectators at Wimbledon fortnight also get through 300,000 cups of tea and coffee, 190,000 sandwiches, 150,000 glasses of Pimm's and 30,000 portions of fish and chips.

Meanwhile, another centre court hit was Naomi Cavaday, from Sidcup, who managed to rattle defending singles champion Venus Williams.

Sadly, the 19-year-old went down in straight sets, but did take a shock 3-1 lead in the first set in the first round thanks to a first game break of the four-times champion. Naomi even took the first set to a tie break before going down 6-1 in the second.

After her defeat Naomi, Britain's number five, said: "It was fantastic, I had so much fun out there. I gave it my best shot."

Miss Williams said: "She played a great match, put a lot of pace on the ball and forced a few errors."

Commentator and former Wimbledon champion John McEnroe said: "It was good to see this British girl come out and not be overwhelmed. She actually looked like she believed she was going to win the match."

PERFECT SERVICE: Hugh Lowe Farms boss Marion Regan with another tray of strawberries destined for punters at Wimbledon

News and sport updated daily
www.kentnews.co.uk

Snatched child was just a hoax

POLICE are urging people not to pass on the urban myth currently circulating that there has been an attempted abduction of a young girl at the Manston Tesco store in Thanet.

The hoax is being circulated by text message and email, stating a girl had been taken from a trolley while her mother's back was turned.

Detectives in East Kent have visited managers and security staff at the Tesco store who confirmed no such incident had taken place.

Tesco head office in Hertfordshire has had reports of similar hoaxes being spread about stores in Scotland and the Doncaster area.

Deputy area commander Supt Chris Hogben said: "People in East Kent can be assured that if an incident of this nature had taken place, we would be very quick to warn them of it. We are investigating the origins of the email.

The KOS Media newsroom received several calls from members of the public on Friday reporting the 'missing' child.

Police hunt for guilty con man

A COWBOY builder is on the run after swindling more than 40 elderly people out of thousands of pounds.

Conman Mark Baker failed to turn up to Canterbury Crown Court on May 9, where he was found guilty in his absence of conspiracy to defraud following an investigation into rogue builders at work across the South East.

There is a warrant for the arrest of the 45-year-old who also calls himself Martin Johnson.

His home address is in Tupwood Lane in Caterham, Surrey, but he also has connections on the border of Kent and south London, and in Glasgow.

Baker and his co-defendants have defrauded more than 40 people, and he is due to be sentenced on July 7.

Anyone with any information is asked to contact Det Sgt Tristan Kluibenschadl at Kent Police on 01622 690690.

HEADLINE NEWS: The Hives and The Cribs will perform at Port Lympne next weekend

They're such rock and roll animals

MUSIC fans are getting ready for one of the festivals of the year.

Zoo8 takes place at Port Lympne Wild Animal Park, near Hythe, from Friday to Sunday, July 4-6.

Mark Ronson, The Cribs and The Hives have been confirmed as headliners for the festival, taking to the stage after a host of established acts, such as Dizzee Rascal, Ash, British Sea Power, Delays, Athlete and Funeral For A Friend.

Those seeking the next-big-thing have also been catered for, with dozens of promising up-and-comers lined up to perform across six smaller stages. If you are unfamiliar with the works of Kid Harpoon, Underground Heroes, Rosemary, Tom Allalone and Brigadier Ambrose, now's your chance to be enlightened.

The family-friendly event will raise money for the animal park's conservation work and organisers say they are working to make the festival as environmentally friendly as possible.

A standard weekend ticket costs £99 for an adult and £50 for children aged between six and 15. Day entry costs £45 for adults and £25 for children.

For more information visit www.zoothousand.com.

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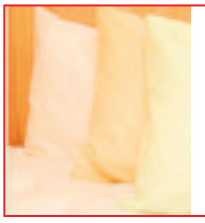

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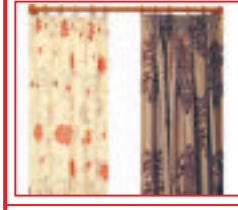

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Kent trainer shocked and delighted by prestigious wins

Royal Ascot double is simply the Best

By **TOM HOWARD**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A KENT trainer achieved the ultimate dream in horse racing as he saddled not one but two winners at Royal Ascot.

John Best, of Hucking, near Maidstone, has trained race horses for 10 years, but the proudest moment of his career came last week at horse racing's most famous meeting.

His rank outsider 100-1 shot, Flashmans Papers, was a shock winner on day one in the Windsor Castle Stakes, but this was followed by a triumph in the Golden Jubilee Stakes – one of the headline races.

Mr Best's three-year-old horse, Kingsgate Native (33-1) ridden by Seb Sanders, stormed to victory, scooping £375,000 in prize money.

Although Kingsgate Native was not fancied for the race, Mr Best, who has trained the horse for two years, believed the mount had enough to win but was shocked by his first Ascot victory.

Amazing

He told Kent on Sunday: "We did not go into the week thinking we would be only making up the numbers.

"I said before the meeting that If I could have a winner that would be amazing, but I would settle for a place finish for one of my horses.

"I do not think the win for Kingsgate Native was unexpected because going into the race meeting, even though he was 33-1, he was the third favourite.

"However, the other horse which won on the first day – Flashmans Papers – was a complete no-hoper so I was so shocked that it came through to win."

With Royal Ascot one of the most prestigious meetings, Mr Best was delighted with the result and hopes he will have more success in the not too distant future.

He added: "I am back down to earth now and back to the day-to-day running of the yard. We had an amazing week and the two wins at Ascot has really given everyone at the yard a boost. To have one winner is special, but two is the ultimate as a trainer.

"To beat top trainers such as Aiden O'Brien and John Gosden is an excellent feeling.

"During the race I got very excited but calmed down quite quickly afterwards."

Kingsgate Native's next run will be the July Cup at Newmarket, which begins on July 11. This season could be the horse's last as Native will be put into stud at the end of the racing calendar.

Mr Best also trains horses for Ashford-based GG Racing. The company sells shares, starting at £110, in its horses. See www.ggracing.biz for more details.

RACING CERT: Kingsgate Native heads for the finishing post, and a £375,000 prize, at Royal Ascot

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Earlier start on the buses

THE county council and all Kent's district councils have agreed to reintroduce the 9am start time for concessionary bus passes from Monday.

All bus operators in Kent have agreed to participate in this change.

KCC's cabinet member for environment, highways and waste, Cllr Keith Ferrin, said: "The Government's national scheme for pensioners provides a start time of 9.30am from Monday to Friday.

"I am delighted to say that, in partnership with all districts and Medway Council, we will be going back to 9am from Monday."

Dumped pet is destroyed

A SICK hamster has been found dumped in a box at Regency Place, Canterbury.

The hamster had a large tumour on its side, eye infections and breathing problems.

It was taken to a vet but had to be put to sleep to end its suffering.

RSPCA inspector Miranda Albinson said: "This poor hamster was suffering terribly.

"It is an offence to dump an animal like this and we would like to hear from anyone who knows who left it here."

The RSPCA can be contacted in confidence on 0300 1234999.

Raider ruined Roman sites

A TRAIN guard from Kent has ruined important archaeological sites across the country by raiding them for ancient artefacts.

Mark Staples, from Swanley, was given a three-year conditional discharge for charges relating to theft and illegal excavations from 20 sites protected by law.

He was sentenced at Dartford Magistrates' Court on Wednesday and police said it was the first time anyone had been prosecuted under the Archaeological Area and Ancient Monuments Act 1979.

The 39-year-old targeted mainly sites and objects of Roman origin, including a mosaic at Spoonley Roman villa in Gloucestershire.

Artefacts were also stolen from excavations at Chilham, Kent, and Chanctonbury, Sussex, and included pieces of pottery, building materials and coins, police said.

Chief Inspector Mark Harrison of Kent Police said Staples did not intend to profit from his hoard.

He said: "His knowledge of the sites would have been higher than the average person. But you only get one chance to excavate a site, once you cut through it is gone."

He said Staples had ruined some areas on the sites he had targeted. "Archaeology is so forensic these days. He did a lot of damage," Chief Insp Harrison said.

Kent has more protected archaeological sites than any other county in England.

Staples was arrested after illegal excavations at Thurnham Castle, Maidstone, and Richborough Roman fort in Sandwich.

Chief Insp Harrison said: "This case highlights our strong partnership with English Heritage and KCC and we will work to prosecute anyone caught with illegal finds."

Ten sites in Kent were disturbed by Staples and police said PC Andy Small was the first officer in the country specially trained to deal with heritage crimes.

He has trained 40 people, including special constables, KCC wardens, PCSOs and prosecutors in rural and environmental crime and a similar role was created by police in Wales based on his success.

Chief Insp Harrison said: "We are the only force with a dedicated officer looking at heritage, wildlife and environmental issues. Kent is very rural and has more wildlife than many areas, plus 250 miles of coastline.

"Anyone who has an interest in heritage or who wishes to discover artefacts should join a professional society or group."

Site could become a world heritage amusement park

More twists and turns in saga of Scenic Railway

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

Picture: MIKE PETT

THE iconic listed rollercoaster and cinema at Margate's Dreamland could become part of the world's first heritage amusement park.

Campaigners welcomed this week's announcement that the Prince's Regeneration Trust had been commissioned to produce a report into the seaside site by its owners, Margate Town Centre Regeneration Company, and the Margate Renewal Partnership.

The Scenic Railway, which is the only listed rollercoaster in the world, was Dreamland's star attraction when it opened in 1920 – but an arson attack in April destroyed 20 per cent of it.

Nick Laister, leader of the Save Dreamland Campaign, said: "This is evidence that all the parties mean business – the trust has been commissioned, which is costing money, so that is a sign we are moving forward.

"While it is standing in its current state it is now a vulnerable structure and I am concerned we do not end up another Brighton west pier with one arson attack after another until the whole thing is gone.

"In the short term we need to get it rebuilt and repaired which will be a positive sign for the people of Margate.

"If scaffolding is up it will signal that things are changing and regeneration is underway."

The trust's other main focus at the site is the cinema, which dates from the 1930s.

Roland Jeffery, the trust's project advisor, said the cinema was historically even more important than the rollercoaster as it had recently been upgraded to Grade II*, making it among the top eight per cent of listed buildings in the UK.

The trust said it was of "pioneering style". It was designed in 1933 by architects Leathart and Grainger and its 'brick fin' has become an iconic landmark on Margate's esplanade.

It also served a variety of functions with restaurants, bars and a dancehall.

Substantial investment

Mr Jeffery agreed that work at the site needed to start as soon as possible, he said: "The sooner the better as it is going to deteriorate if it is not maintained."

He said the trust has just completed the report and was preparing to pass it back to its partners.

"We believe it [the Scenic Railway] is repairable. The challenge is to make it viable again. We have written a scoping report designed to map out the way forward so there is an awful lot of work still to do, including specialised studies into how it is going to be developed and brought forward, so this is just the beginning.

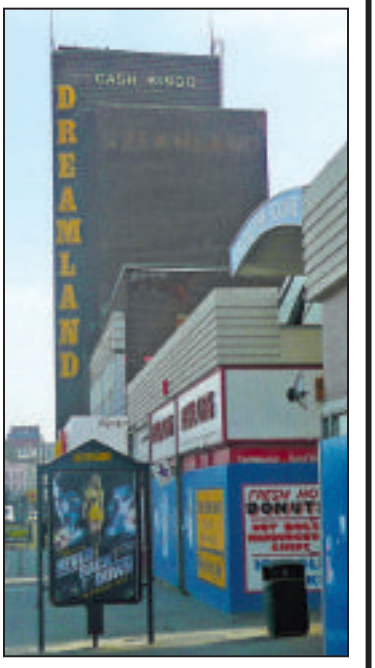
"It will take substantial investment," he said.

Derek Harding, programme director at Margate Renewal Partnership, said one of the partnership's key roles was to bring in investment from other agencies and said the Heritage Lottery Fund, Sea Change, which is a new fund especially for coastal resorts, and Seeda, Kent's regional development agency, were being explored.

He said: "Our aspirations will require commitment and investment from a range of different parties. We are working closely with the owners to bring forward redevelopment plans for the site, which is probably the most important in Margate, if not Thanet."

Mr Jeffery said he had a special personal interest in seeing Dreamland back in use as a rollercoaster fan, saying he travelled the world enjoying different rides.

He added: "We do deal with all sorts of projects, but we have never dealt with a rollercoaster so this is pretty special."



A TALL ORDER: Campaigners are working hard to save the scenic railway and cinema

Planning regulations for the site state that 50 per cent must remain an amusement park and the rest can be redeveloped as a mixture of retail, leisure and housing.

Campaigner Mr Laister said: "It will be the world's first heritage amusement park.

"We have begun collecting vintage rides from parks such as Southport and Blackpool's Pleasure Beach.

"It will almost be like a living museum – visitors will see the rides operating, enjoy them and find out about the history of them."

He added that the trust's experience of using heritage for regeneration was welcomed and their involvement would add weight to the project.

The trust is one of 19 charities which the Prince of Wales in president of, it is concerned with both the preservation of the UK's heritage and promoting urban and rural regeneration in areas of social and economic deprivation.

A Kent Police spokeswoman said the investigation into the Scenic Railway arson attack was continuing and added "it is anticipated there may be some updates shortly".

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Tail of the unexpected

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

WHEN a student saw a flash of white in the tree outside her college she thought it was a cat.

But as the creature began to move, revealing its bushy tail, she realised it was a rare albino squirrel.

Carol Arbuckle, who studies fine art at Canterbury College, said she managed to get a picture of the squirrel through the window at the Langham Block.

"It was because of the colour that I noticed it and though it was a cat. When it moved I realised what it was and took a picture with the camera I had on me," she said.

Wildlife experts said only around one in 100,000 squirrels are born albino and the condition is caused by a genetic abnormality.

Mrs Arbuckle said the squirrel sat in the tree for quite a long time after she took the photograph about two weeks ago, but no-one had seen it since.

Martyn Nicholls, spokesman at the Wildwood Trust near Herne Bay, said: "Unfortunately, albinos are likely to have lots of problems. They get skin cancers because they have no melanin, or pigmentation, in their skin.

"They are also more likely to be spotted by predators because of their colour and another consequence of albinism is often blindness, because they have no protection towards the back of the retina."

A report on a national newspaper's website in March this year revealed that an albino squirrel had been spotted in Wye near Ashford.

Several readers then claimed they had seen the distinctive white mammals in Whitstable, Maidstone and Holligbourne, prompting suggestions there could be a cluster of the animals in Kent.

Mr Nicholls said: "It is a possibility there is a genetic pile somewhere in the area creating that genetically distinct group.

"The problem is normally they do not survive to breed."

The conservation charity's woodland park has a population of around 40 white squirrels, which are non-albinos because they do not have pink eyes, and black grey squirrels, he said.

Grey squirrels were introduced from America and there are currently about 66 million in the UK.

But Britain's indigenous red squirrels are only found at a rate of 66 to one, and became extinct in Kent in the 1960s.

The charity is running a project to re-introduce red squirrels to the Island of Anglesey.

Wildwood's first brood of three new babies, born earlier this month, will be taken to the Welsh island once they have grown up.

Peter Smith, the charity's chief executive, added: "Red squirrels are going to continue to decline towards extinction unless urgent action is taken. But it's not yet too late.

"If we can help restore areas of woodland to a native state and make a concerted effort, we might just be able to tip the balance back in the red squirrel's favour."

Pictures: White squirrel: CAROL ARBUCKLE; Red squirrel: LES WILLIS

RARE BREEDS: It is thought a cluster of white squirrels exists in Kent and the rare red squirrel (inset) is being bred in the county

News and updated online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Brave duo stopped sex attack on elderly train passenger

AN APPEAL has gone out to find to men who defended an elderly woman victim from a sex attack on a Kent train.

Det Chief Insp Gareth Williams of British Transport Police said the attack happened on the 11.34am from Dartford to Victoria on Monday, June 23.

He said: "The 68-year-old victim was traveling alone and was confronted by a white male in his 50s who attempted to indecently assault her and prevented her from leaving the carriage.

"There were only a few passengers on the train, but two men apparently saw the woman in distress, and stepped in to protect her. The men grabbed the suspect and ejected him from the train at Welling.

"Without the actions of these two men, we may well have been investigating a different and even more serious scenario.

"We are eager for the two men who intervened to come forward and speak to police.

"We are equally keen to speak to any person that travelled on that specific train service, as they may hold vital information to assist us in our inquiry."

Anyone with information can call British Transport Police on 0800 405040 or the Witness Appeal Line on 0207 391 5275.

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Memorial Day to remember the heroic Few

By JAMIE McGINNES
jamie.mcginnes@kosmedia.co.uk

FORMER RAF fighter pilots who flew during the Battle of Britain will be among veterans remembering The Few at a service next weekend.

Just under 3,000 Allied aircrew flew in the pivotal 1940 conflict, of whom about 125 are still alive.

A group of 18 of them, who all served in RAF Fighter Command, will be present at Memorial Day next Sunday.

The veterans, who are in their late 80s or 90s, will be at the National Memorial to The Few at Capel-le-Ferne, near Folkestone.

Former groundcrew and many others from the RAF and the other services who played their part in resisting a German invasion will also be there.

There will be a fly-past and display by a Hurricane and Spitfire from the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight.

Group Captain Patrick Tootal, secretary of the Battle of Britain Memorial Trust, which maintains the memorial, said: "We hope that many people will turn out to show The Few that we remember them and salute the sacrifices of their comrades, at a time when the country was under grave threat.

"The remembrance service will be solemn, but there will also be plenty to enjoy, including the RAF ceremonial and the performance of the veteran aircraft."

Undaunted

Group Capt Tootal added: "The memorial trust is determined to ensure the heroism that was shown 68 years ago is never forgotten. We will also be marking the fact that it is exactly 15 years since the national memorial was unveiled by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother."

In the summer of 1940, the German Luftwaffe was ordered to establish air superiority over England so it could invade.

This fighting became known as the Battle of Britain, a phrase from a speech by the then Prime Minister, Winston Churchill.

Later, the official dates of the battle were established as July 10 to October 31 1940, although the most intense fighting took place over southern England, including Kent, between early August and mid September.

In the House of Commons on August 20, 1940, Churchill declared: "The gratitude of every home in our island, in our Empire and indeed throughout the world, except in the abodes of the guilty, goes out to the British airmen, who, undaunted by odds, unwearied in their constant challenge and mortal danger, are turning the tide of the world war by their prowess and devotion.

"Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few."

From then on the airmen of Fighter Command who fought in the battle were known as The Few.

A FITTING TRIBUTE: Eighteen members of Fighter Command will be at Memorial Day

As well as the British Isles, they came from a range of other countries including Poland, Australia, Canada, Newfoundland, South Africa, New Zealand, the United States, Belgium, France, and Czechoslovakia.

Many were in their teens and 20s, but a significant number were older. One air gunner was 51.

National

The Hawker Hurricane was the RAF fighter that shot down most German aircraft in the Battle of Britain. It was joined in the front line by the Supermarine Spitfire. Other planes that took part included the Boulton Paul Defiant, Bristol Blenheim, Gloster Gladiator and Fairey Fulmar.

The idea of a national memorial came from Wing Commander Geoffrey Page, who had been shot down and badly burned as a Hurricane pilot during the battle.

Admission to Memorial Day is free and gates will open at 10.30am, with the main events, including a service of remembrance and flypast and display (subject to weather conditions) taking place from 1.30pm.

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Advertising Announcement

Enjoy hot bargains at Wilkinson this summer!

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Shoppers can look forward to kitting themselves out for less this summer as Wilkinson's newest store opens in the heart of Sittingbourne on High Street. Whether you're shopping for garden parties, BBQ's, picnics or lazy afternoons, the new store will provide everything you need for a perfect summer, all at unbeatable prices.

Unveiling its diverse range to the public on Wednesday 9th July 2008, the new Sittingbourne store will stock a huge collection of everyday items, such as garden products, kitchenware, DIY and general homeware, not to mention a wide range of toiletries and cleaners.

Local residents and families are invited to come down and enjoy the fun with the Wilkinson team at the official opening. The celebrations will also be spilling into the weekend, as the store hosts its family fun day on Saturday 12th July. As well as free balloons and sweets, there will also be a face painter in store, creating fantastic free designs to keep the children entertained.

Opening Day Celebrations Wednesday 9th July - live performance from 'Big Fish Band' to keep the kids entertained, official ribbon cutting and a balloon modeller.
Plus a great Family Fun Day on Saturday 12th July with Free Face Painting and the 'Fulson Zebras' girls football club performing football skills.

Store manager Crawford Ansell is looking forward to revealing the new Wilkinson store to the shoppers of Sittingbourne: "The town centre is currently undergoing a regeneration project, which includes providing better shops for the local community. The arrival of the new Wilkinson store is the first step in this re-development and people are extremely excited to witness this new shopping experience. Customers will relish the bargains in store and will enjoy having a one-stop-shop at their doorstep for everything they could possibly need in and around the home."

The 18,500 sq ft Sittingbourne store is the 305th Wilkinson to open in the UK and it brings with it a massive 110 new jobs to the Sittingbourne area, a great boost for the local economy and another reason for the community to celebrate.

Watch this space for more announcements of further community projects Wilkinson will be supporting in and around Sittingbourne and don't forget to show your support if you see the Wilkinson team!

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Tory claims give birth to a row

Health chiefs deny 'supersize' threat to three maternity units

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

HEALTH chiefs have hit back at Conservative Party claims that three maternity units in Kent are under threat.

Using Freedom of Information requests, the Tories checked every hospital in the UK to discover the current status of maternity units.

The party said it had been told five have been downgraded, including the one at Kent and Canterbury Hospital – a claim denied by the East Kent Hospitals NHS Trust, which runs the unit.

The Conservatives said nationally 15 maternity units were under threat of closure, including the one at Queen Mary's Sidcup run by the Queen Mary's Sidcup NHS Trust.

And 11 units are earmarked for downgrading or are threatened with being downgraded, including at Maidstone Hospital run by the Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust.

Shadow Health Secretary Andrew Lansley said: "These figures clearly demonstrate the foolishness of Labour's plans to supersize our NHS. For higher-risk births, specialist obstetric services are needed.

"But that doesn't mean the great majority of mothers can't have access to choice, including their local birth centre or maternity unit, which provides a better option for uncomplicated births."

The Tories claim a review of healthcare by Lord Darzi, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Health, possibly to be made public next week, is set to recommend "supersizing" maternity units, despite what the Tories claim are clear statistics from an analysis by the House of Commons library which found smaller maternity units perform to a higher average standard than larger units. A Tory official said: "In 2004, the unit at Kent and Canterbury was changed from a consultant-led unit to a midwifery-led unit, which we regard as a downgrade."

But a spokesman for the Eastern and Coastal Kent Primary Care Trust said: "We do not see the Kent and Canterbury birthing unit, a very successful unit with more than 400 deliveries a year, as having had a downgrading of any kind.

"Having that facility at Kent and Canterbury while also offering specialist units at both the William Harvey in Ashford and the Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother in Margate has provided women in the Eastern and Coastal Kent area with a real choice for giving birth.

"Women at high risk of developing complications during childbirth can have more specialist care at one of the two specialist units.

"Women who are assessed as very low risk can have a service tailored to their needs either at Canterbury or Dover, in one of the midwifery-led birthing units.

"Research shows women who have their babies in a midwifery-led birthing unit rather than an acute unit are more likely to have a normal delivery, less likely to need pain relief and are guaranteed one-to-one care from a midwife.

"National recommendations are that women should be given a real choice. For women with a low risk, home births and birthing centres are as safe as a 'traditional' hospital birth. The birthing centre at Canterbury offers a different culture and experience for women, focusing on normal birth, family inclusion, a relaxed, calm home-from-home atmosphere and extended postnatal support, particularly around breast feeding."

A spokesman for the Maidstone trust said: "Changes to our women and children's services were publicly consulted on and agreed three years ago. This is not a local revelation, it is a well-known fact.

"The changes we are making will raise standards of care for women, children and newborn babies. First and foremost, they are being made for clinical reasons. For the first time, women will also be able to choose to give birth in a new midwifery-led birthing unit.

"In this instance, bigger units will create choice and, most importantly of all, provide some of our youngest and sickest patients with a safer environment."

Health minister Ben Bradshaw said: "Time and time again the Tories say they want the NHS to be free locally to make decisions about the kind of services they should provide. Yet time and time again, when that freedom is exercised, the Tories oppose it.

"Andrew Lansley cannot have it both ways. Either we free up the NHS to run itself locally, as Labour proposes, or we constantly intervene in the decisions they take, as it would appear is the real policy of the Conservative Party."

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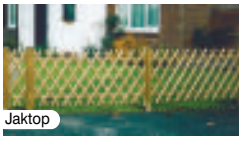
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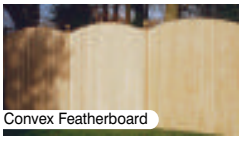
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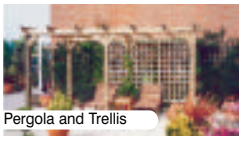
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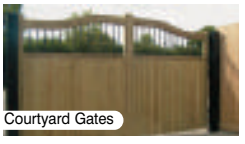
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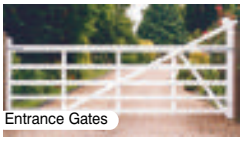
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By JAMIE McGINNES
jamie.mcginnes@kosmedia.co.uk

TOUCHING: Christine Anderson, who died of cancer aged 62

Funeral held for 'dynamo' of KCC press department

TRIBUTES were paid to the former media manager of Kent County Council at her funeral this week.

Christine Anderson, 62, was diagnosed with cancer at the end of May and died a fortnight later.

Her family and friends gave touching speeches about the former music journalist at a service at the Kent and Sussex Crematorium in Tunbridge Wells on Tuesday.

Mourners heard how Mrs Anderson, who lived with her husband Peter in Brenchley, had worked for a music magazine set up by The Beatles' manager Brian Epstein, Music Echo, in the 1960s.

She interviewed rock and roll bands including The Rolling Stones, The Kinks, The Animals and The Who.

Fittingly, one of the songs at her funeral was Waterloo Sunset by The Kinks. Other music played included Every Little Bit Hurts by the Spencer Davis Group, Colours by Donovan and Farewell, Farewell by Sandy Denny.

Humour

Her husband spoke of how, at the age of 20, he first met his wife-to-be at a churchyard in Soho in 1963.

"A live bullock had been brought there as part of a publicity stunt for a pop group called Unit 4 + 2," said Mr Anderson.

"I fell into conversation with another journalist, a disarming brown-haired girl with a sense of humour. I liked her. Forty-five years later, I looked into the eyes of this girl – my wife – as she lay dying of cancer and realised just how much I loved her."

The couple were married in 1967 and had two sons, Joel and Ben, now 39 and 36, and two grandchildren, Calum, five, and 18-month-old Otis.

During the service, Mr Anderson read a moving poem about his wife entitled How Is My Garden?

Joel Anderson spoke about his mother's time as a music journalist, while his brother Ben described her love of animals. The keen rider was out on her horse just weeks before she died on June 10.

She started work for Kent County Council in 1989 as press officer for the social services department. She remained at KCC for 18 years, working her way up to the post of media manager, before retiring in April, 2007.

Senior councillors and KCC chief executive Peter Gilroy were among those who attended her funeral.

Alison Pemberton, a friend of Mrs Anderson's who met her while working at KCC, said at the funeral: "Christine handled a wide variety of very difficult issues at work with diplomacy and tact – and that ever-ready sense of humour."

Cllr Paul Carter, leader of KCC, told KOS Media that Mrs Anderson was a "dynamo" in the press office.

Cllr Alex King, KCC's deputy leader, said Mrs Anderson showed great professionalism, as well as an "ability to see the funny side of things".

Ian Patel, editorial director of KOS Media, said: "Christine was not only a first-rate professional, but a lovely lady as well. She will be sorely missed."

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A LITTLE GEM: Images of Kent, May 25

Reader's tale on little town

ONE of our readers has been able to solve the 'mystery' of Ramsgate's model village.

Last month our popular Images of Kent feature showed a picture by Linden Harris with what she thought was the remains of Ramsgate's model village.

She had taken the picture at Salmestone Grange, near Margate, and asked if any KOS Media readers knew the story behind the tiny town.

Now Phil Hughes of St Peters in Thanet has come up with this picture.

He said: "I saw your article on the Ramsgate model village in Images of Kent and dug out these photos of it in its original site on the West Cliff at Ramsgate in 1965.

"I visited this site many times as a child and took visiting family and friends there over the years and they were amazed at the detail.

"I can remember soon after the first 'streaker' hit the news the owners had a streaker placed on the cricket pitch to keep it up-to-date.

"Sadly vandalism became the order of the day and it was destroyed a number of times and became very expensive to keep in a condition to invite visitors."

• *See this week's Images of Kent on p29.*

PETITE: Phil's 1965 picture of the village

Supplier's call to save water

UTILITY company bosses have asked people to try and save water – despite there being no signs of a drought.

Folkestone & Dover Water has started to see demand from customers rise over the summer, and water efficiency manager Ian McAthy says water saving is a vital part of plans to ensure a long-term sustainable supply for the area.

He said: "After winter and spring rain it may seem as if water is plentiful, but in fact we still get less rainfall on average here than parts of the Middle East. So it's just common sense to use water carefully.

"There's also a double benefit to water saving as it helps to reduce carbon emissions as well.

"It takes a lot of energy to treat water and move it around in bulk and water savings bring significant energy savings too."

128 arrested in summer purge on drink drivers

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

LIGHT evenings and warmer weather makes summer one of the busiest times of the year for drink and drug driving, according to Kent Police.

A total of 128 motorists have been arrested across the county as part of a police clampdown launched only two weeks ago.

A total of 753 drivers have been stopped and breath tested by officers from the Roads Policing Unit.

Acting sergeant Mark Lamb, from the force's senior collision investigation unit, said: "People finish work while it's still light and warm and it's very tempting to stop off on the way home to socialise with friends and have a drink.

"There is nothing wrong with that as long as the drink isn't alcoholic if you've then got to drive home.

"We want Kent's roads to remain safe for drivers, passengers and the community generally.

"And the best way to do that is for us to keep reinforcing the consequences of irresponsible, anti-social and unsafe behaviour and taking a hard-line approach where and when necessary. Stay sober and stay alert or you could be arrested."

Motorists caught under the influence of drugs or alcohol can face a driving ban, a fine of up to £5,000 or even be jailed.

Police said driving bans for one of more years can lead to an increase in insurance premiums, the risk of job loss, a criminal record and difficulty getting a visa when travelling to some countries.

A spokeswoman for the force warned that officers were watching the county's roads 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Acting sergeant Lamb added: "On a personal level you or your family could be involved in a serious collision. You could end up in a wheelchair, kill yourself or someone else.

"Too often we see the consequences of drink and drug driving and the lives that are wrecked. That is why we take a zero tolerance approach to these offences."

He said about two people are killed on Kent's roads each week and statistics show that one in six of the deaths are because of drink or drug driving.

Since the launch of the summer campaign 37 people were arrested in mid Kent, which covers Swale, and the second highest for drink and drug driving offences was Medway with 29.

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All creatures great and small

LIVESTOCK has always been at the heart of the Kent County Show and this year farm animals will again be centre stage.

The farming industry contributed £5.6 billion to the UK economy in 2006, using about three quarters of the country's land and employing more than half a million people.

Much of this money is generated by the livestock industry and many of these wonderful animals will be at this year's County Show, from Friday to Sunday, July 11-13.

Organisers say some of the finest cattle are born and bred on Kent farms including Charolais, Limousin, Dexter, Holstein, Jersey, and the popular local breed, the Sussex. All will be on display throughout the three days of the show.

Sheep will be well represented by Continental breeds, as well as popular British breeds such as the Suffolk, Jacob and the local Romney.

There will also be a wide range of other livestock, including rabbits, goats, pigs, llamas and horses.

All the animals are accessible to visitors, either in the pens or when being paraded in the rings during judging.

One of the highlights of the show is the grand parade of livestock in the Astor ring, and for the first time in many years there will be donkey classes, on the Sunday.

Sheep-shearing will feature prominently and staff and students from Hadlow College will be running demonstrations and practice sessions throughout the three days. The Young Farmers' Clubs of Kent promise to provide one of the finest displays of livestock visitors will ever see. Members will take part in a variety of classes for cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry and rabbits, ranging from theory to showing and turnout classes.

The young farmers also plan fun classes, such as fancy dress, a mock stock auction, round bale pushing and It's a Knockout.

County field officer Philippa Stedman-Collins said: "It is a challenge each year to offer enough variety of classes to suit the 10-26 age range of our members.

"We aim for inclusion and also host fun classes, even our teachers and club leaders can take part. The fancy dress is good fun, with decorated sheep and handlers – it has to be seen to be believed."

County vice-chairman Michael Sims said: "Young Farmers is probably the biggest and best rural youth movement in the world."

FARM FAVOURITES: Champion cattle and prize sheep will be among the many magnificent beasts on display during the three-day show

The agricultural area will be even larger this year and there will be an interactive zone – under the heading Why Farming Matters – that sees the National Farmers' Union, Country Land and Business Association, Produced in Kent, Hadlow College and the Kent County Agricultural Society join together to highlight the importance of farming to Kent.

The aim is to educate the public about how food is produced and will include produce growing in a polytunnel, a cereal demonstration with end products, a tractor with cultivating machine and seed drill, cooking demonstrations and a chance to make strawberry smoothies using cycle power.

Also at the show will be the Band of the Corps of Royal Engineers and the famous Dancing Diggers – sequenced movement by a fleet of JCBs.

New this year will be a larger countryside area that will include fly-fishing, ferret racing, birds of prey, otters, hounds and other country pursuits such as working gun dogs.

The forestry section will feature both traditional and modern methods of timber extraction from the Murrain Wood, as well as many traditional crafts skills.

There will also be the traditional mix of trade stands where you can buy anything from a car to tractor, a conservatory to an overseas property, or quality food to luxury clothing. There will also be many catering outlets using local farm produce.

The Kent County Show is open from 8am-6pm each day. Advance tickets can be bought online at www.kentshow.co.uk or on 01622 633060 or on the gate at the County Showground, Detling.

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Viewers asked to look out for rape suspects

ON THE RUN: Ali Khardo and Shamal Hussain are wanted over the rape of a teenage girl

By **SIMON ROBINSON**
simon.robinson@kosmedia.co.uk

DETECTIVES are following up a number of leads after an appeal this week on Crimewatch to trace two me suspected of raping a teenage girl.

Medway police's Det Sgt Adam Marshall featured on the BBC TV show to appeal for information on the whereabouts of Ali Khardo and Shamal Hussain.

Fifteen members of the public contacted the show after the appeal on Tuesday night.

Appeals

The young Iraqis have been on the run since November, when they were arrested on suspicion of attacking a terrified 19-year-old girl in Rochester high street.

DS Marshall said: "This was a serious offence and we are keen to locate these men.

"We have conducted numerous appeals locally and are now hoping that this high-profile national coverage will provide us with the information we need to allow us to progress our investigation."

Khardo, 22, and Hussain, 20, who gave police addresses in the Gravesend area, were arrested and questioned by officers after being captured on CCTV cameras in the high street in the early hours of the morning on November 4 – the night the teenager was attacked.

Both men were released on bail to allow for further investigation, but failed to report to Medway police station as required.

Officers went to their homes in a bid to locate the pair, but found the properties abandoned.

A police spokesman said at the time of their disappearance: "We are not being complacent, but there is every possibility they have fled abroad.

"We are keen to locate these men and interview them further in connection with this serious offence. If you know where they are, please contact police and do not attempt to stop them yourself.

"We are hopeful that somebody will recognise these men and come forward with some useful information."

Khardo is 6ft and of average build, and Hussain is 5ft 6ins and stocky.

• ***Anyone with any information can call the police on 01634 891055 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.***

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1948

- 125,000 nurses
- 5,000 consultants
- The NHS cost £248m in its first year, almost £140m over budget
- A cataract operation meant a week of total immobility with the patient's head supported by sandbags

2008

- 399,600 nurses
- 33,674 consultants
- The budget for the NHS in 2008 is approximately £92bn
- Eye surgery is now over within 20 minutes, and most patients are out of the hospital the same day

Please visit our website **www.eastcoastkentpct.nhs.uk** for more facts, information and ways to get involved in the NHS 60 celebrations.

And watch out for more information in the July edition of Health News, the health service newspaper for the people of eastern and coastal Kent!

NHS 60 YEARS

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MOTOR SHOW @

A far out festival if ever there was one

CULT HEROES: The Mighty Boosh duo, Noel Fielding (left) and Julian Barratt

By **MICK WATKINS**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

CULT comedy stars The Mighty Boosh have organised their own one-day comedy and music festival – with a host of big-name stars set to perform at the Hop Farm.

Duo Noel Fielding and Julian Barrett have won a legion of devoted fans from their surreal sit-com and nationwide stage tour, and now they are bringing their own favourite performers to Paddock Wood next month.

Indie superstars The Charlatans are among the biggest draws lined up to appear on the Monkey Hell main stage, joined by the likes of 80s electro legend Gary Numan, The Kills and Har Mar Superstar.

Pulp frontman Jarvis Cocker and risqué US singer Peaches will also contribute with DJ sets.

Providing the laughs in The Velvet Onion tent will be acclaimed comics such as Geordie funnyman Ross Noble, Mock the Week star Frankie Boyle and Matthew Holness.

The undercard also includes emerging up-and-comers including Mark Watson, Josie Long, Wil Hodgson and Tom Baden.

The Mighty Boosh will be on hand at the end of the day to combine the comedy and music elements of the festival with a top-of-the-bill performance on the main stage.

Eccentric Fielding said: "We've never played a music festival before and a comic has never headlined at a festival before, so we are seizing the opportunity and doing both.

"We've got the band together and have written some special bits just for this festival. It should be a real laugh!!"

The 30,000 capacity event on Saturday, July 5, costs £50 per person, with children under 12 going free when accompanied by an adult. Food and bottled water will be allowed on site but no glass bottles and cans.

• ***Gates open at noon. For more information visit www.booshfestival.com.***

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

ECLECTIC MIX: Comic Frankie Boyle, 80s star Gary Numan and ex-Pulp frontman Jarvis Cocker are among the acts at the Mighty Boosh Festival at the Hop Farm

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Sunday

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Sunday 29th at 7.30pm
An Evening of Clairvoyance with Psychic Medium Colin Fry
Sunday 29th 1.30pm
Simple Simon's Party Showtime

JULY 2008
Sunday 6th, 13th & 20th at 7.30pm
Paul James & Bill Nutt
The Boys Search for a Star
Saturday 12th at 7.30pm
Fairtrade Island Concert
Saturday 19th at 7.30pm
Joe Longthorne
Friday 25th 8pm
Big Sky Celebration of Voice

AUGUST 2008
Saturday 9th at 7.30pm
Joe Pasquale's Back on the Road
Wednesday 13th – Friday 12th Sept
Girling Productions and Thanet Leisureforce
present for Summer Season 2008
"Viva Las Vegas"

SEPTEMBER 2008
Sunday 7th
Search For A Star
Local Talent Finals
Saturday 13th
Disco Inferno
Sunday 21st at 7.30pm
Chas n Dave
Saturday 27th
Jim Davidson
The Devil Rides Again – Live
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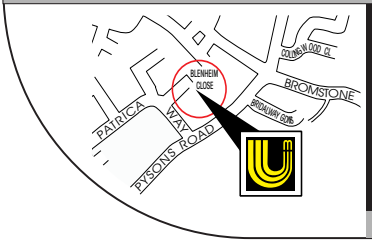

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Kent County Council

Kent Freedom Pass is coming to town near you

If you haven't already heard about the Kent Freedom Pass, you probably will soon because it's expanding across Kent.

Kent Freedom Pass was introduced in June 2007 into three pilot areas of Canterbury and Tunbridge Wells/Tonbridge. The scheme offers unlimited travel anytime, anywhere, for all Kent pupils aged from 11 to 16 who are at school in those areas. That means more independence for young people and less congestion on the county's roads.

Freedom Pass has proved so popular that it's being rolled out across the county a year early and it is now available in Dover, Shepway, Maidstone and Malling.

Application forms for the passes are only available from schools in these areas and more information is available by contacting us on **08458 247 800**, by e-mailing us at **kentfreedompass@kent.gov.uk** or by visiting **www.kent.gov.uk/highways**

However, it doesn't end there - Freedom Pass will be rolling out to Swale and Thanet in January 2009 followed by Ashford, Dartford, Gravesham and Sevenoaks in June 2009. Look out for it in your area start enjoying your freedom.

See www.KentTV.com for up-to-date travel information

Why do major highway projects take years to build?

We have all heard of new bypasses that are ready to be built but it still takes years to lay a few miles of tarmac - so why does it take so long? Well, there's a lot of work involved before it gets to the tarmac stage.

Major new highways are often built across areas of land that may have been untouched for years except perhaps for farming. This means there may be important archaeological remains undisturbed or well established wildlife. Before any construction can start, we have to carry out archaeological investigations and take steps to ensure that wildlife is either not disturbed or is relocated.

Once these aspects have been dealt with, the site can be cleared ready for construction to begin, but that's not as simple as spreading a lump of tarmac! Beneath the tarmac surface, there can be five layers of different materials that are needed to support the road and the traffic that will use it. Sometimes we also have to move over 100,000 tonnes of material to form the line of the road.

We need to take drainage into consideration too. Rainwater from the road can't just run off the edge because of possible flooding and pollution. Instead, it is collected via gullies and pipe systems that are all below the surface and channelled to chambers where the flow into rivers or streams can be controlled.

Water isn't the only underground work either. For example, bridges need foundations that can have 30 to 40 piles going 25 metres into the ground and there are usually service pipes in the ground for gas, electricity and telecoms that could need moving. This process alone can take months and some pipes cannot be moved in the winter when gas and electricity must be maintained.

When you take all the preparation into account, it's not surprising that major projects don't happen overnight!

If you'd like to learn more about how we look after our roads call **08458 247 800** or visit **www.kent.gov.uk/highways**

Why we resurface the road at night

Night time might not seem like the most obvious time to carry out resurfacing works, but for us it's often a time when we can carry out works with minimal disruption.

So that we can carry out resurfacing works safely for both the public and our workers, road closures are often required. When we look at closing a road, many factors are taken into consideration including:

- how busy is the road;
- whether the road is rural or residential;
- bus routes on that road;
- possible diversion routes;
- the needs of schools, surgeries and the emergency services; and
- the needs of local businesses.

Once all of these factors have been taken into consideration, the most suitable option to keep traffic disruption to a minimum, allow access to businesses and not hinder bus routes, may be to close the road and work at night.

We carry out full consultation to explain why night time working has been chosen, and in residential areas the work is scheduled to have the noisiest works completed before midnight.

If you have any concerns or queries about work being carried out in your area at night, you can contact us, anytime, on **08458 247 800** or visit **www.kent.gov.uk/highways**

Travel Update

Kent Highway Services

Below are roadworks and events that may cause some disruptions. Please remember that these are planned works and other emergency works may be required.

	Start	Finish	Road	Reason
Thanet	current	11.7.08	Victoria Road, Ramsgate	Temporary traffic lights - new gas mains
Swale	30.6.08	11.7.08	Albion Street, Broadstairs	Temporary traffic lights - gas mains works
Tunbridge	30.6.08	28.7.08	Broad Oak Road, Canterbury	Road closure - drainage works
Gravesend	30.6.08	8.8.08	Well Hill, Shoreham	Temporary traffic lights - carriageway works
Sevenoaks	1.7.08	7.7.08	Green Street, Darenth	Temporary traffic lights - energy supply works
Canterbury	4.7.08	7.7.08	Kingsmead Road, Canterbury	Road closure - energy supply works

For details of other roadworks in Kent please visit www.kent.gov.uk/travel

For more information, please call 08458 247 800 or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Hospitals working hard to reduce CO2 emissions

By JENNA PUDELEK
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

THE NHS is one of the largest public sector contributors to climate change in Europe, but hospital trusts in Kent and Medway have revealed how they are cutting their carbon footprints.

In a recent carbon reduction strategy paper the Government has proposed the health service, which emits 18 million tonnes of CO2 a year, shrinks its carbon footprint by 60 per cent by 2050.

Medway NHS Foundation Trust has won a national competition for best carbon reduction performance and was the only NHS organisation to be shortlisted.

Paul Evans, the trust's environmental manager, said the Department of Health's proposed reduction target was ambitious but should be achievable.

"By 2050 new technologies are going to come along. Fuel cells and panels that take energy directly from sunlight are expensive, but they are getting cheaper and more efficient and are going to become more popular.

"We have a project in the pipeline to refurbish staff accommodation and I'm hopeful we may be able to include some solar panels to heat domestic water. So we are making progress," he said.

Emissions

As the trust runs the biggest hospital in Kent, the Medway Maritime Hospital in Gillingham, it has been part of the EU Emissions Trading Scheme for three years.

The trust emits 11,000 tonnes of carbon a year and aims to reduce its emissions 15 per cent by 2010 in line with a previous target set by the Government.

Mr Evans said: "We are getting well into that target and we are hopeful we will meet it and exceed it."

The trust has been awarded a £2.9 million grant from the Government's sustainability fund and is planning to install a Combined Heat and Power (CHP) plant at the hospital.

CHP, which is ideal for hospitals because they generally operate continuously throughout the year, generates power, usually electricity, and uses the heat produced during the generating process so that it is not wasted, he said.

He said usually two-thirds of energy is lost from traditional electrical power stations. It is hoped the plant will reduce CO2 emissions at the trust by 3,000 tonnes a year.

East Kent Hospitals NHS Trust has already installed a mini CHP plant at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford and hopes to win a £4m grant for another large one to add to the 6.8 tonnes it is already saving.

Both the William Harvey and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother hospital in Margate have seen a one per cent drop in CO2 emissions since 2004, despite a large increase in the overall size of the estates, the trust said.

Howard Jones, the trust's director of facilities, said a range of innovative measures were underway to reduce its carbon footprint further including solar heating to pre-heat the water at the QEQM's heart centre.

Packaging

The trust won an energy conservation prize for recycling 'grey water' from the renal unit at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital. Paper, plastics and cans are recycled across the trust's sites and a 'steamplicity' food production system at the QEQM has significantly reduced waste from packaging, he added.

The trust said it is approximately on target to reduce its carbon emissions by 15 per cent by 2010.

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust said its new hospital planned for Pembury to open in 2011 under a private finance deal was being built to the latest energy efficient standards and would have a new type of biomass boiler that burns woods chips and is carbon neutral.

Phil Marsden, the associate director of estates, said Maidstone Hospital was 39 per cent over the Government's CO2 emissions target for 2010 but was giving the "utmost urgency" to reducing the figure.

The trust also wants to install a CHP plant and a range of other measures so that it is on track to meet the target.

Mr Marsden said when all the measures were implemented the energy bill for the hospital would be reduced by £320,000 at year saving around 30 per cent at current prices.

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TIME TO COME HOME? Experts believe the Bayeux Tapestry was designed and woven by artists in Anglo-Saxon England

Made in England?

Is there a thread of truth in experts' claims Bayeux Tapestry was woven here?

By **MICK WATKINS**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THE world-famous Bayeux Tapestry could have been made in Canterbury, according to historians.

And now pressure is growing for one of the most recognisable historical documents to be brought to England.

Currently on display in a special museum in Bayeux, Normandy, the tapestry is believed to date back to within a couple of decades of 1066, and describes the events immediately before and during the Norman Conquest.

The embroidered cloth measures 20in by 230ft and is annotated in Latin.

The work has been the subject of historical debate for hundreds of years, and in a poll carried out for BBC History Magazine 79 per cent of those asked thought that the tapestry was made in Bayeux.

But many historians argue it was made on English soil, with some suggesting it was designed in Canterbury because of images originating from manuscripts held at Canterbury library at St Augustine's Monastery at the time.

Analysis

Eleven per cent of people in magazine poll believe it was made in Canterbury.

The French generally claim the tapestry was commissioned and created by Queen Matilda, William the Conqueror's wife, and her ladies-in-waiting.

However, recent analysis shows it probably was commissioned by William the Conqueror's half brother, Bishop Odo.

If this were true, the tapestry was probably designed and wove in England by Anglo-Saxon artists argue historians, pointing out that Bishop Odo's power base was in Kent, the Latin text contains hints of Anglo Saxon, other embroideries originate from England at this time, and the vegetable dyes can be found in cloth woven here.

While there is a Victorian copy of the Bayeux Tapestry dating back to 1880 housed at Reading Museum, the original may never have been shown on this side of the Channel.

And now pressure is growing for the tapestry to be brought 'home'. Michael Lewis, organiser of a Bayeux Tapestry conference to be held at the British Museum next month, told BBC History Magazine: "If the tapestry was returned, it would be possible to display it along with the works that it was influenced by.

"That would be a fabulous exhibition – to have the tapestry displayed with the primary sources as far as we can ascertain them."

The last requests from England to the French government for a loan of the tapestry were refused. The first was for the coronation of the Queen in 1953 and the second was for the 900-year anniversary of the Battle of Hastings in 1966.

Sylvette Lemagnen, curator of the Bayeux Tapestry Museum, said: "It would require high-level permission for such a loan today. It's not my responsibility nor the responsibility of the town of Bayeux to answer such a question because the tapestry belongs to the French state."

TAPESTRY FACTS

The Bayeux Tapestry is not a tapestry (something woven, like a carpet), but an embroidery (something sewn)

- **It includes 623 people, 202 horses, 41 ships and 55 dogs.**
- **There are more than 500 mythical creatures along the borders.**
- **There are more than 2,000 words.**
- **It is made of a piece of linen more than 70 metres long – about the length of three swimming pools.**

Editor of BBC History Magazine, Dave Musgrove, said: "Whoever was responsible for the tapestry seems to have been walking a fine line between being pro-English and pro-Norman, which is why it has been a subject of considerable debate by historians in recent years.

"But it is indisputable that it depicts events that are of enormous significance to England and English history and in the new spirit of Anglo-French co-operation recently espoused by the French president Nicolas Sarkozy, it's a good time to consider if it should be displayed on this side of the Channel."

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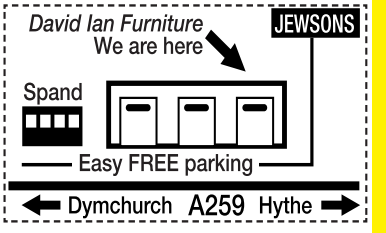

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Canon getting ready to lead a Channel odyssey

A TEAM of rowers, kayakers and canoeists is ready to tackle the English Channel in a gruelling challenge to raise funds for one of the county's most famous landmarks.

They will be paddling from Dover to Sangatte to raise funds for the Save Canterbury Cathedral Appeal and Odyssey, a Kent-based charity that provides adventure experiences for cancer patients.

The journey is expected to take six hours of non-stop effort for the 14-strong team.

The team will be travelling in a six-oar 34ft Thames cutter, three double kayaks, and a single kayak for the 24-mile crossing.

They will be crossing one of the busiest shipping lanes in the world, negotiating treacherous currents, cargo ships and cross-Channel ferries.

The trip is planned for Saturday, July 12, weather permitting.

Team member and event co-ordinator Canon Edward Condry, the Residentiary Canon at Canterbury Cathedral, said: "This is an intensely demanding challenge.

"The levels of endurance and fitness required to row the Channel is similar to that needed to run a marathon.

"Although we have some very experienced rowers, we have all had to learn the different techniques and equipment needed for sea rowing. It's quite different to tackling a relatively calm river on a boat with sliding seats."

Canon Condry rowed at Oxford University and was also a member of Team GB at the World Indoor Rowing Championships 2006.

"The challenge facing the team is daunting, requiring good technique, strength and stamina," he said.

TEAM MEMBERS

- Canon Edward Condry, Residentiary Canon at Canterbury Cathedral
- Steve Gough, former chief executive of the Chaucer Hospital, ex-instructor with Outward Bound and the helmsman of a Welsh lifeboat
- Jerome Condry, pupil of Simon Langton Boys' School, Canterbury
- Shaun Barrett, owner of Barretts Digital World, Canterbury
- Francis Maude, London architect who rowed at Cambridge
- Claire Harland, swimming coach at King's School, Canterbury, and mother of Georgina Harland, the modern pentathlon Olympic bronze medallist 2004
- Peter Curtis, clerk of works at Canterbury Cathedral
- Rachel Davis, Ebrina Vogelaar-Kelly, Nicky Morgan, Jan Wade, Jonathan Richardson (a lay clerk at Canterbury Cathedral) and Claire Wright
- John Meardon, retired Royal Marines Brigadier and Receiver General of Canterbury Cathedral

"But I take comfort in the fact that every member of the team has shown such dedication and this is, after all, a team event – the ultimate team event, in fact."

The rowers have been training for the demands of ocean rowing and they will be accompanied by three safety vessels. Permission for the challenge has been given by both the Dover and French coastguards.

The Save Canterbury Cathedral Appeal was launched in October, 2006, to raise £50 million to fund a conservation and development programme for the World Heritage Site, which is in need of major repair and restoration work.

Team member Steve Gough said: "Fewer than 25 Channel rowing attempts have succeeded since the 1960s, so we are all aware of the extent of the task ahead.

"After months of preparation, we just hope it is finally going to happen and pray that the weather is kind to us."

Endurance

Canon Condry also undertook a 1,200-mile, 16-day Canterbury to Rome cycle ride in August 2007 with a team of 28 cyclists to raise £140,000 for the cathedral appeal and other charities.

Some of the riders are also taking part in the latest challenge, including Canon Condry's 17-year-old son Jerome.

A sea-going rowing boat has been provided by Herne Bay Sea Cadets for training, while the double canoes and accompanying equipment have been lent by Nomad.

Each team member must raise a minimum of £500 to compete in the challenge.

To make a donation to the Save Canterbury Cathedral Appeal or Odyssey, go to http://www.justgiving.com/edwardcondry or visit www.savecanterburycathedral.com.

Find more news and sport updated daily
www.kentnews.co.uk

Picture: PHIL HOUGHTON

SETTING SAIL: Canon Edward Condry, Jan Wade and Steve Gough at the cathedral

County's adult social services commended by UN advisor

TECHNOLOGY will prove key in providing social care to Kent's ageing population a United Nations advisor has told a seminar of the sector's professionals and the county's politicians.

Denis Gilhooly, the UN's principle advisor on partnerships, said governments should be providing communications technology, such as broadband internet and mobile phones, to help the 90 million people who live alone worldwide.

He told the audience at Kent County Council's headquarters in Maidstone: "There is a real potential for empowerment through information technology.

"We are just at the beginning of the information revolution – the fastest-ever growth of communications technology.

"We are looking at important changes, such as text messages that remind you when to take your medication."

He praised Kent's adult social services for already beginning to use technology, such as Telehealth and direct payments, to help older people.

Cllr Kevin Lynes, KCC's cabinet member for adult social services, said elderly people who needed care should not lose out on choices.

"Do you want to be told when the meals are and what television you can watch?" he said.

"There's an awful lot of loss of choice and loss of freedom. I'd like choice and freedom and to go to bed feeling I've had 'a good day'.

"Meeting people's needs might involve technology, but it also involves human beings. It's about using whatever is appropriate."

HANDFUL: Damian Aspinall with two of the babies

Foundation to follow as

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

AS BABY gorilla Tiya snuggled in the arms of zoo owner Damian Aspinall it seemed almost impossible to think she would soon be set free in the wilds of Africa.

But the five-month-old is joining two other young gorillas, Kouki and Oudiki, who have all been hand-reared after being abandoned by their mothers, to start an exciting new life in the Gabon next month.

The western lowland gorillas were born at the Aspinall Foundation's wild animal parks – Port Lympne, near Hythe, and Howletts, near Canterbury.

Mr Aspinall's father, John, set up the conservation charity which works to breed and reintroduce endangered species to protected areas in the wild, including two gorilla reserves in the Congo and neighbouring Gabon.

As the inquisitive and confident creatures explored the manicured lawns at Howletts Mansion on Monday, Mr Aspinall told how the gorillas would gradually be released into the Batéké Plateau National Park.

"They will have bedrooms overnight for a while and they will be taken for walks in the forest everyday.

MONKEYING ABOUT: Tiya, Kouki and Oudiki

"And in about a year or so they will be let out of their bedrooms to live in the trees," he said.

The gorillas, whose species is listed as critically endangered, face various dangers in the wild, such as human poachers, leopards and diseases.

"We have an 85 per cent survival rate which is the best in the world," Mr Aspinall said.

"We have reintroduced 51 and are the only people in the world to have done that. It is great as we are an English foundation and privately funded. We hope that other founda-

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sets example for world gorillas return to Africa

Pictures: DAVE ROLFE/PHIL HOUGHTON

will be acclimatised to their new suroundings in the Gabon before being released into the wild

tions and organisations will start to follow us."

Although they are cute now, male gorillas, like Oudki, can weigh between 180-215 kilos and females, which are smaller, about 90 kilos.

In the Gabon the Kent primates will be able to roam around one million acres of their natural habitat, which is managed and protected by the Aspinall Foundation in collaboration with the country's government as part of the Projet Protection de Gorilles.

Poaching patrols protect the gorillas from 'bush meat' hunters, who mainly come from the Congo to the east of Gambon.

The western lowland gorilla faces extinction by 2020 if numbers continue to decline at their current rate and part of the project involves raising awareness of their plight through missions to Congolese villages near the reserve.

Mr Aspinall said: "Resident gorillas [in the park] are only the ones we have reintroduced.

"The ones from Kent have been orphaned or rejected by their mothers."

A SCHOOLGIRL has won a competition to name an orphaned baby Diana monkey being hand reared at a wild animal park.

Ayla Dray, 8, who goes to Seabrook Primary School in Hythe, cleverly came up with Keymon – an anagram of monkey.

Keymon was rejected by his mother after his birth at Port Lympne, near Hythe, on Good Friday and is being looked after by keepers at the zoo.

He is spending time at the park near his parents and siblings so that he can be reintroduced to his family group over the next few months.

Nicknamed Baby Ronnie after the headline act, Mark Ronson, at the Zoo8 music festival which is being held at Port Lympne this July, the organisers and keepers challenged local children to come up with a permanent name for the monkey.

Diana monkeys are one of the most endangered guenons because they are hunted for their flesh and fur.

"Gorillas, which were born in the wild, do inhabit the foundation's parks in Gabon and the Congo, but they have been rescued from the bush meat trade and some arrive in a terrible physical condition often suffering stress and depression.

"It is where people have butchered an entire family and taken the baby as a pet. We confiscate them.

"The rescued gorillas, although they have been living in captivity, teach the ones from Kent a lot about the forest," Mr Aspinall said.

Howletts' resident vet, Jane Hopper, will be travelling to Africa with the gorillas to make sure they arrive safely.

She said: "The keepers have been doing the day-to-day care and I've been regularly checking in on their health progress. The environment will be entirely different, it will be humid and hot and the local diseases are very different so we have given them a course of vaccinations."

The gorillas will be taking malaria tablets and she has been adjusting their food so it is similar to what they can expect in the Gabon.

She added: "I'm hoping not to have to sedate them on the flight. I'll be checking they are not too stressed. They will be sleeping in crates with familiar boxes and travelling with us on the floor in the cabin."

And thanks to Sir Richard Branson they will be travelling in style – flying courtesy of the billionaire for the nine-hour flight from Farnborough Airport.

"It took one look at the amazing photographs of the three babies for me to fall in love totally," Sir Richard said.

"The foundation does amazing work and I'm delighted I was in a position to help. Naturally it has nothing to do with the fact that I get to cuddle three gorgeous baby gorillas the whole way to Africa."

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When women fought back

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

AN INSIGHT into the lives of some of the Kent women who fought tirelessly for the right to vote has been revealed in a new book.

Laura Probert, a retired librarian from Ramsgate, has spent two years researching the suffrage movement and has uncovered some inspirational tales of the county's early women's rights campaigners.

"I've always been interested in the period of when my grandmothers were young because I was brought up on their stories from the 1880s to World War One," she said.

Mrs Probert's interest in the lives of women in the late Victorian and Edwardian eras was also sparked by a chance meeting with a suffragette while on a family holiday in Guernsey as an inquisitive eight-year-old, which she has developed for her first book – Women of Kent Rally to the Cause.

The popularity of Thanet's seaside resorts as holiday destinations during the early 1900s meant some of the leading figures of the suffrage movement, notably Emmeline Pankhurst and her daughter Christabel, gave talks at packed out public meetings during the summer months.

Mrs Probert painstakingly searched through microfilm collections at the county's libraries, looking through copies of newspaper cuttings from the era as the bulk of her research.

An anonymous suffragette, quoted in the book, wrote in the Dover Express after a talk at the town hall in 1910.

She said: "Those of her audience who will hear Mrs Pankhurst for the first time on Wednesday night, will probably be expecting to see a formidable looking hooligan."

But she noted that the founder of the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU) was "a slight, fragile altogether charming woman, who in addition to the right word, the happy gesture, the low, sweet voice, possesses also that wonderful magnetic personality peculiar to the born leader".

Devotion

The writer said it was "a strange and pitiful thing that her country could find no better reward for such genius and devotion than the broad arrow and the criminal's cell".

Kent had leading figures in the suffragette movement of its own including Florence Macaulay, the organiser of the Canterbury and South Kent WSPU, Mrs Probert said.

She would write to local papers reminding women of demonstrations that were being held in London and organise train times for their journeys.

In 1893, New Zealand was the first country to give the vote to women, which acted as an incentive and a boost to women in the UK.

But by 1903 there remained no sign of reform and the WSPU held its first meeting where it decided it would have to resort to extreme measures of civil disobedience.

Women began by chaining themselves to railings and in 1913 Emily Davison was even killed trying to bring down the King's horse at the Derby.

Hundreds of women were prepared to go to jail for their cause and in further resistance to the authorities went on hunger strikes leading to many being force fed.

In 1913, Miss Macaulay was arrested for obstructing police.

Mrs Probert discovered an article from the Kentish Gazette which tells how she was outside Holloway Prison on 'patrol' and refused to move on when asked by police. She chose to go to prison rather than pay a £5 fine, which was later paid by an anonymous donor.

A leading Kent suffragist was Beatrice Chapman, an active member of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies (NUWSS), which sought equality through legal and peaceful means, and Mrs Probert interviewed her granddaughter for the book.

She said: "Beatrice campaigned for all women's issues, she was non-violent and not one of the militant ones."

A Thanet Times article in June 1913 demonstrates the nerve required by those speaking out publicly about the injustices of the day while constantly being goaded by men.

It describes a talk given by a "fair and youthful" woman in Broadstairs, stating: "…a male individual in a crushed felt and skyscraper collar puts what is meant to be a killing question.

"How would the speaker like to be a man?" …A steely glitter lights her eyes… For a full half-minute she stays her reply, her eyes meanwhile striving to pierce through the outer wrappings of the masculine person.

"Then, in low, but clear, staccato tones, that ring like pistol shots across the silences, comes the retort: 'How would you?'"

It was not until 1918 that women over 30 were given the right to vote and another 10 years before the age limit was abolished, finally placing women on a more even footing with men.

• ***The book is available from the Millicent Press, set up by Mrs Probert in honour of the leader of the NUWSS, Millicent Garrett Fawcett, and costs £9. Email mill press@live.co.uk for more information.***

LEADING LIGHT: Suffragette Emmeline Pankhurst gave packed out talks in Kent

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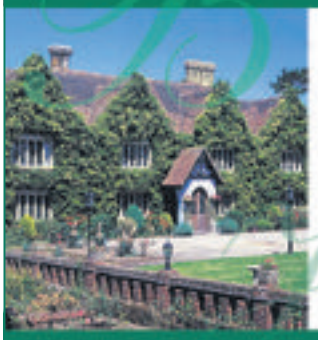

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Doctor at centre of parrot recovery programme

Pictures: GREGORY GUIDA 2007

A beak practice

AN ENDANGERED species of parrot now under threat from a highly contagious virus may be offered a renewed chance of survival by a conservationist at the University of Kent.

By **ERICA JONES**

Dr Jim Groombridge, a lecturer in biodiversity conservation at the university's Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology, has been awarded £215,594 from the Leverhulme Trust to lead a three-year study looking at the Mauritius parakeet's susceptibility to infection.

In particular, Dr Groombridge will look at he spread of the highly contagious and often lethal virus Psittacine Beak and Feather Disease (PBFD) that has recently infected this endangered parrot.

This project is all the more important because the once widespread population of the Mauritius parakeet fell to just 12 birds by 1987, following a century of habitat loss and competition from the introduced ringneck parakeet.

Infectious

However, following a successful breeding programme, numbers of Mauritian parakeets eventually recovered to 350 birds – but in 2004 an outbreak of PBFD threatened the population.

The main aim of the research is to provide guidance for managing the disease problems encountered by this endangered parrot, but the project will also provide guidance for managing infectious disease in conservation programmes worldwide.

Joining Dr Groombridge will be a number of other experts including Owen Lyne of the Institute of Mathematics, Statistics and Actuarial Science at the University of Kent.

The dramatic success story of the Mauritius parakeets' rescue from extinction is the result of efforts by the Mauritius Wildlife Foundation, the World Parrot Trust, the UK's International Zoo Veterinary Group and the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust in Jersey.

Dr Groombridge said: "This project will integrate epidemiology and immunogenetics within an important and high-profile parrot recovery programme managed by the Mauritius Wildlife Foundation – an organisation that has gained a worldwide reputation for its success in restoring critically endangered species from the brink of extinction.

"Funding by the Leverhulme Trust will provide a much needed inter-disciplinary platform to examine how avian diseases can be effectively managed for the long term."

The Leverhulme Trust is one of the largest providers of research funding in the UK, distributing £40 million every year.

PROBLEM: Mauritian parakeets are susceptible to disease

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Fall and rise in jobless total

THE total number of unemployed people in Kent went up by half of one per cent during May, but fell more than 12 per cent (12.1 per cent) compared with a year ago.

The whole of Kent was made up of Medway – down 3.6 per cent over the month and down 11.2 over the year – and the Kent County Council area – up 1.6 per cent over the month and down 12.3 over the year.

Ashford was up two per cent over the month, down 21.5 per cent over the year; Canterbury up 1.7 per cent over the month, down 12.4 over the year; Dartford up 3.2 per cent and down 8.4 per cent; Dover up 6.2 per cent and down 9.9 per cent.

Gravesham up 0.6 per cent and down 11.7 per cent; Maidstone up 1.4 per cent and down 20.1 per cent; Sevenoaks up 1.2 per cent and down 16.6 per cent; Shepway up 2.7 per cent down 15.2 per cent; Swale down 2.6 per cent and down 14.3 per cent.

Thanet was up four per cent down 5.8 per cent; Tonbridge and Malling down 5.1 per cent and down 10 per cent; Tunbridge Wells down 0.2 per cent and down 4.6 per cent.

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REGARDED as the largest military vehicle show in the world, the War and Peace Show encompasses some 4,000 military vehicles with an impressive 100,000 visitors from all corners of the globe.

The 2008 War and Peace Show takes place on July 16-20 and plans are underway to ensure the event is one to remember!

The five-day experience is a must for military enthusiasts as well as those with a passion for the 1940s or fast and furious vehicle action.

Each day will see the beasts of battle come to life with live battles and re-enactments in the purpose-built tank arena and some of the very best living history displays depicting life during past conflicts including World War Two, Vietnam and the Falklands.

The softer side of the War and Peace includes the delightful fashions of the 1940s with daily fashion shows and a unique shopping opportunity. In the evenings the marquee is home to the sounds of swing.

The Jive Aces return for on Friday, July 18, and on Saturday, July 19, the organisers are delighted to announce a brand new-music event featuring Bill Baker's Big Band.

We've teamed up with The Hop Farm to offer one star prize winner a family ticket to the War and Peace Show, a T-shirt and DVD and the opportunity to ride in a tank at the show. Five runners-up will receive family tickets to the show. To enter, simply answer this question:

Q) Who made the song We'll Meet Again famous during the war?

Send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to War and Peace competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

No purchase necessary.

For our full terms and conditions please visit www.kentnews.co.uk or for a posted copy of the T&Cs call 01303 817073.

If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry. Closing date is 09.07.08.

Tickets for the War and Peace Show and the evening music events can be purchased in advance by visiting www.thehopfarm.co.uk.

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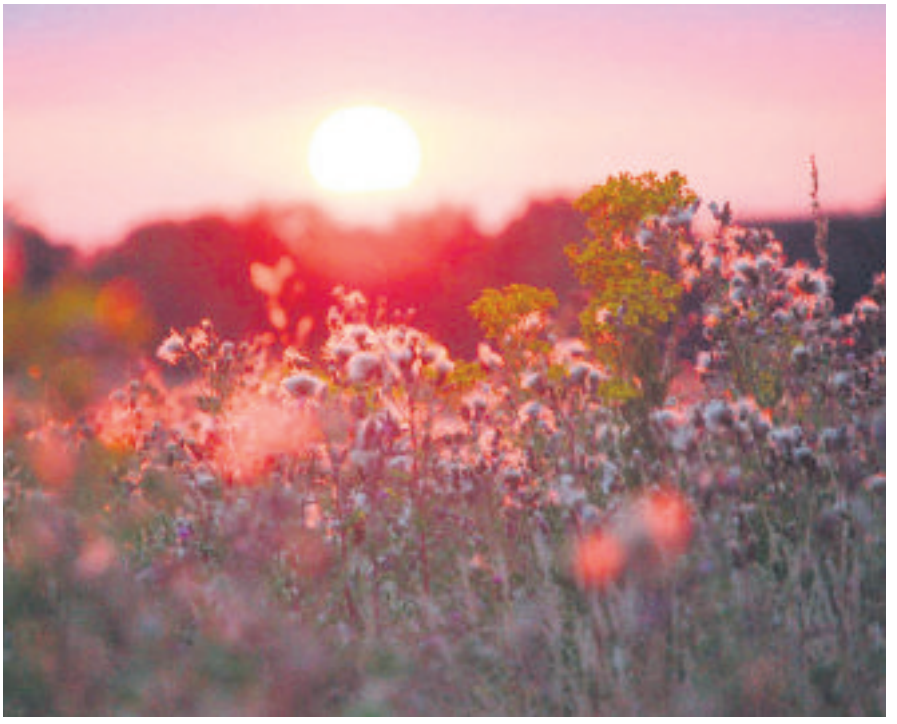

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THIS photo of Blue Bell Hill was taken by Richard Martin of Maidstone.

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Man faces raft of sex charges

POLICE have charged a 76-year-old man from Westgate-on-Sea with eight offences including rape.

Jeffrey Mantle, of Essex Road, was charged with one count of rape, five counts of indecent assault, one count of assault resulting in actual bodily harm and one count of taking indecent images of children.

He will appear at Canterbury Crown Court on Monday, July 7.

CROSSKEYS COACHES

2008 DAY TRIPS AND TOURS

July		ADULT	CHILD
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Wed 9th	Lullingstone Castle and Lavender Farm	£24.00	£21.00
Sat 12th	Kent County Show	£22.50	£20.50
Sun 13th	Hampton Court Flower Show	£38.50	£36.50
Tues 15th	Brighton	£15.00	£12.00
Thurs 17th	Teapot Island	£8.50	£7.50
Sat 19th	Calais Market & Cite Europe	£17.50	£15.50
Tues 22nd	Denbies Vineyard	£19.50	£17.50
Tues 29th	London Eye& Thames Cruise	£33.00	£30.00
Thurs 31st	Bruges	£27.00	£25.00
August		**ADULT**	**CHILD**
Sat 2nd	Disneyland Paris	£55.00	£50.00
Mon 4th	Afternoon Cite Europe	£12.00	£9.00
Wed 6th	Thames Cruise & Kew Gardens	£36.00	£33.00
Fri 8th	London Zoo	£23.00	£21.00
Sat 9th	Le Touquet by Ferry	£22.00	£19.00
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Wed 13th	Cambrais	£27.00	£25.00

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WOMEN for MEN

SINGLE mum, 20, very caring and loving, enjoys the usual things in life, socialising, music, films, seeks genuine male for a relationship or just friends. Box 891152 TXT

BUBBLY, outgoing female, 21, blonde, medium build, loves country walks, fun nights out, playing golf etc, WLTM guy, 21-27, to share fun times with! Box 891190 TXT P

LIVELY female, 26, 5ft2, brown hair, green eyes, size 10, single mum, enjoys most things, seeks genuine, laid-back guy, for fun, friendship and more. Box 428555 TXT

27YR old, mother of 1, enjoys cooking, films, music and going to the pub. Looking for a man to have a giggle with. Box 891393 TXT P

I'M a tall, blonde half-Dutch woman, 27, love swimming, power-walking and music, festivals! Looking for a lovely man with GSOH, for something special! Box 893230 TXT P

SINGLE mum, 30, 5ft2, short brown hair, petite, loves pubs, clubs, eating out, nights in, seeking Mr Right for friendship/more. Box 437895 TXT

ATTRACTIVE female, 31, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734 TXT P

SINGLE Mum, 32, cuddly larger lady, 5ft8, dark brown hair, seeking someone to have fun, a dance, some drinks, meals and more with. Box 438941 TXT

ARE you the one? I'm 33, single, 5ft2, pure country lass from farming background, seeking my lovely country man to make me forever happy. Box 892265 TXT P

I'M a social, caring and sensual woman, 33, who enjoys having fun, conversation, arts, music and eating out, seeking a like-minded, upbeat man. Box 899177 TXT P

SINGLE girl, hardworking, kind and caring, 32, brown hair/eyes, nice smile, looking to meet similar for lets see how it goes. Box 901072 TXT P

SINGLE, kind, caring animal lover, 34, from Kent, likes cooking, cinema, theatre, most music, seeks non-smoking male, 34-38, for LTR. Box 440782 TXT

OUTGOING, funny, young-looking female, 34, 5ft3, brown hair/eyes, Tonbridge. Seeks caring, loyal male for friendship, leading to more. Box 433107 TXT P

FRIENDLY, faithful female, 35, nice, attractive, loves reading, poetry and the outdoors, WLTM genuine soul mate, for happy times. Box 165860 TXT

SINGLE Mum, 35, own place, loves animals, nights in, very down2earth, seeking caring male, looks unimportant, fun-loving personality essential. Box 440671 TXT

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SINGLE mum, 39, dark hair/blue eyes, medium build, enjoys pubs, cinemas, eating in/out, DVDs, concerts, WLTM honest, reliable male with GSOH to make me smile. Box 441195

28YR old female, long blonde hair, blue eyes, 5ft10, slim, attractive, GSOH, seeks nice gentleman for companionship and happy times. Box 440218 TXT

SLIM lady, 31, 5ft9, shoulder-length dark hair, hazel eyes, loves having fun and meeting new people, enjoys superbikes, music, pubs, socialising with friends, keeping fit. Box 433131 TXT

FUN-LOVING, attractive female, 31, 5ft10, brown hair/eyes, size 8-10, GSOH, passionate about music, bikes and animals, seeking a caring, considerate male, who's into bikes. Box 433134 TXT

TALL, black, pretty female, 31, new to the Chatham area, loves watching football, shopping, travel; seeking tall, white, loving male 34-47 for LTR. Box 437778 TXT

OUTGOING female, 31, tall, skinny, like going out, eating out, socialising, walks, looking for a funny, blond gentleman with good looks for lasting companionship. Maidstone. Box 441023

BLACK female, 32, 5ft8, likes cooking, reading, going out, WLTM a nice man 34-50, down2earth and fun to be with, to find out more. Box 438585 TXT

32YR old woman, 5ft9, brown hair, curvy figure. I enjoy having fun and a laugh, and WLTM nice, kind gent. Box 439402 TXT

CARING, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013 TXT

SINGLE mum of 2, 32, WLTM someone kind, caring and considerate, for nights in/out and cinema. Ryan from Whitstable, please call again, leave contact details! Box 406670 TXT

MUM of three, 36, long mousey hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating out, seeks kind, caring, genuine male 36-49, non-smoker, for LTR. Box 440693 TXT

DIVORCED, lively mum, 35, GSOH, I enjoy time with my family and friends, cinema, good food, beach walks, seeks male for honesty, love and romance. Box 813930 TXT P

LARGE, bubbly lady, 37, 5'8", like country walks, seaside, birdwatching, all music, looking for that special male for good times. Box 435619 TXT

EASYGOING female with GSOH, 36, enjoys many things - going out, staying in, seeking a nice, genuine guy for lots of love and laughter. Box 437913 TXT

LOVELY female, 36, 5ft4, medium-large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102 TXT

LOVING female, 36, 5ft4, brown hair, green eyes, likes socialising, staying in, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428666 TXT

SINGLE mum of three, 37, fun-loving, great to be around, been hurt in the past, heart has been broken and needs mending. Box 908053 TXT P

BUBBLY, cuddly, blonde single mum, 38, 5'6", likes cars, reading, pubs, cosy nights in, having a laugh, looking for that right male for LTR. Box 905614 TXT P

BLACK lady, 38yr old, enjoys swimming, films and bird watching. Fairly new to the area. Wltm a male for friendship and maybe romance. Box 441608 TXT

NURSE, 37yrs, 2 kids, 5ft8, blonde hair, blue eyes, likes the gym, cooking, swimming, salsa dancing, looking for a kind, caring, loyal male. Box 431557 TXT

MANDY, 38, lovely brunette, petite, slim, very tactile, bubbly, professional mum, WLTM honest, romantic N/S man. Box 432639 TXT

ATTRACTIVE 38yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901893 TXT P

LOVELY single Mum, 38, 5ft4, blonde, slim, loves socialising, good fun and chatty, WLTM similar male for fun and laughter, maybe leading to LTR. Box 372889 TXT P

SINCERE female, quiet, friendly and genuine, 39, 5ft1, looking for friendship, possibly relationship. Likes cosy nights in, restaurants, going out, martial arts. Kent area. Box 901235 TXT

KIND, caring, spiritual lady, 39, 5'4", average build, hazel puppy-dog eyes, brown hair, looking for genuine, honest guy, non-smoker, friendship first. Box 899694 TXT P

FUN-LOVING, vivacious lady, 41, one son, enjoys dining out, walking, cinema, romantic meals, seeking confident man with GSOH, N/S, for friendship, maybe more. Kent. Box 895679 TXT

FUN-LOVING, vivacious woman, 41, 5ft1, enjoys dining out, walking, cinema, looking for a confident man with GSOH, N/S for friendship, maybe more. Box 896889 TXT

HI, I'm a fun-loving woman early 40, 5'1", curvy, enjoy eating out and cooking to walking, looking for man for happiness. Box 894398 TXT

YOUNG-LOOKING/ACTING curvy woman, 41, looking for someone special, for nights out/in. Hopefully leading to something amazing and long term. Box 746781 TXT P

I'M Caroline, 42, single mum, likes having fun, eating out, wine bars, swimming, looking for someone for something meaningful. Box 430952 TXT

PROFESSIONAL 41yr old female, 5'9", dark hair, blue eyes, single mum, happy-go-lucky, into sports, looking for professional, tall male, for laughter and happiness. Box 420077

HARD-WORKING female, 41, 5'4", bubbly, independent woman, love to laugh, socialising with friends, looking for independent man who values TLC. Box 414156 TXT

KAY, 43, 5ft1, medium build, enjoys cinema, bowling, restaurants, foreign travel, the beach! seeking my Mr Right, so give me a call! Box 440574

FUN-LOVING 41, happy, caring, N/S brunette, size 12, 5ft3, likes to laugh, enjoy most things, looking for that special person to share my life. Box 897642 TXT

NIKI, 44, I'm like marmite you will love or hate me. Cuddly, outgoing, female, looking to be captured with laughter, are you brave enough ? Box 894205 TXT P

DEAL-BASED lady, 43, divorced, brunette, green eyes, 5ft10, likes going out, pubs, clubs, cinema, shopping, walks, loves films and all sports except cricket. Box 430384 TXT P

ONE woman, 45, no lies, one tie, honest, warm and kind. Are you tall, honest, single, motivated, and genuine? If so get in touch... Box 918163 TXT

PETITE, sincere woman, 44, wavy blonde hair, blue eyes, size 10, loves beach walks, animals, DIY, swimming, travelling. WLTM N/S man to share things with. Box 429682 TXT

HI! I'm 45, 5ft6, largish build, blue eyes, non-smoker/driver, mother of two (daughter 10/son 15), seeking male to share life with, walks, beaches and more.Canterbury. Box 440592

ATTRACTIVE female, 45, slim-medium build, 5ft5, big brown eyes, brown hair, caring, loving, honest, seeking LTR with an honest, caring male to enjoy life with. Box 439367 TXT

44YR old female, blonde hair, 5ft5, slim, easygoing, enjoy many things in life, looking for someone similar out there to enjoy life with! Box 436810 TXT

CARING, honest 46yr old female, 5'2", eyes of blue, redhead. Likes cinema, theatre, walking. WLTM male for fun and friendship. Box 895928 TXT

SLIM, petite Sandy, 46, brown hair, green eyes, no ties, loves socialising, eating out etc, GSOH, seeking trustworthy, honest man for partnership and mutual affection. Box 440100 TXT

FRIENDLY, bubbly, fun-loving woman, 45, 5'4", GSOH, enjoys socialising, pubs, music, eating in/out, own home/car, smoker, looking for honest man 44-55, who enjoys life. Box 823441 TXT P

HAPPY go lucky, honest, loving female, 47, enjoy going out, staying in, love my dogs and animals, seeks fun loving chap for friendship and more. Box 892112 TXT

SINCERE, happy woman, with GSOH. I'm 5ft6, with short brown hair, brown eyes. I have lots of interests and WLTM similar guy. Box 895019 TXT

HI, I'm Laura, 47, friendly, honest, love motor-biking, WLTM gentleman interested in bikes, walks, holidays, the countryside, museums, castles, and perhaps love! Box 440397 TXT

HI I'm Mandy, chocolate brown hair, blue eyes, 48, seeking human male (preferably) for nights out, socialising, clubbing, meals, lots of laughs and much more. Box 437489 TXT

MARLENE, 48, blonde, medium build, likes 4x4s, the gym, quad-biking, a glass of wine, cinema, rugby/soccer/cricket, WLTM sincere youngish guy for friendship/companionship and who knows. Box 894117 TXT

HAPPY, fit, youthful 48yr old single mum, OHAC, very good sense of humour. Likes all the normal social things. Very honest. Seeking sincere, stable, solvent man. Box 895929 TXT

GENUINE, outgoing single mum, 48yr old, enjoys swimming, the outdoors and travelling, WLTM male to travel and enjoy life with. Take the plunge! Box 891011 TXT P

BUBBLY, caring lady, 47, divorced with 2 teenagers, dark hair, medium build, into cooking, driving, love to talk, laugh and have fun, seeking a normal guy. Box 425952 TXT

YOUNG-LOOKING, slim, attractive female, 48, fun-loving, outgoing, N/S, GSOH, love music, holidays, going out, staying in, seeks similar man, 42-50. Aylesford. Box 428833 TXT

HELP me write my stand-up comedy routine! I'm 49, you'll need to make me laugh out loud and understand observational comedy to make the grade. Box 892640 TXT

GENUINE, friendly female, 49, likes walks, gardening, nights in/out, seeking genuine, friendly male, 45-55. Dover. Box 435441 TXT

BUBBLY, voluptuous, very warm-hearted, tactile woman, 49, looking for that special someone to share cuddles, romantic evening in/out and possible relationship. Box 440879 TXT

YOUNG female, 50, 5ft5, slim, bubbly, outgoing, GSOH, loves animals, walks, eating out, nights in with wine, seeks genuine male 45-55 for friendship/more. Box 439607 TXT

49Y/O female, medium build, blonde, quite short, seeking tall, confident, sensual guy for regular wining, dining, loving and laughter, honest, genuine and loving. Box 438854 TXT

PETITE, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLTM genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562 TXT

PROFESSIONAL female 49, 5ft4, long hair, slim, likes eating out, the beach, travel, seeks a friendly chap, 48-55. Box 417100 TXT

HI I'm Sarah, 51, 5ft2, long dark hair, like cooking, going out, films, music, lots of interests! Seeking friendship, maybe something more later. Box 441193 TXT

MAXINE, 51, an Aries, very loving, romantic, have grown-up children, love walks, socialising, seeking similar aged male who wants to stop being alone! Box 440774 TXT

SPORTY female, 50, 5'8", blonde/blue, enjoys golf, walking, socialising, eating in/out, WLTM fun-loving, kind, sporty male, 48-60, 5'10"+, to share life. Box 165367 TXT

I'M Karen, 51, 5ft9, blonde, blue-eyed, medium build, vCSOH, considerate, like keeping fit, romantic nights in/out, bowling, tennis, lots of sports, seeking male for relationship! Box 893277 TXT P

53, fit and healthy, single now for nine years and can't find the right man! If you enjoy sports and live music let's chat! Box 923309 TXT P

HI, I'm a kind female, 52, slim, 5ft3, dark hair. I like music, dancing, reading, coast, countryside. Seeking kind, genuine man, 45-60, for LTR. Box 430032 TXT

PETITE female, 54yr old, enjoys walking, reading and eating out, WLTM a companion to get to know better and maybe develop a relationship with. Box 441606 TXT

SPONTANEOUS, friendly, lively female, 55, likes cinema, walking, cooking, socialising, seeks similar person for friendship leading to hopefully more. Box 430854 TXT

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SLIM, modern, blue-eyed blonde with wicked SOH, 56, loving, caring, romantic, loves living life to the full, seeking loving guy 50-60 for LTR. Box 441408 TXT

LOVELY, curvaceous lady, 57yr old, enjoys visual arts and travelling, WLTM a genuine male, 50-69 for friendship and possibly romance. Box 441382 TXT

HI there, kind-hearted 57yr old sincere lady, non-smoker, recently separated, seeking kind, honest gent for friendship first and to make me laugh. Box 440637 TXT

SINCERE female, 57, caring, separated, I enjoy nights in/out, reading, walking, various activities, just separated for a friend and the see from there! Box 437420 TXT

CARING female, 57, enjoys family-life, car-boot sales, going out, beach walks, looking for male, 55 plus, for true love. Box 374845 TXT

EASYGOING female, 62, nights in and out, drama, social drinks, seeks nice, honest man for friendship and maybe more. Box 440491 TXT

GENUINE female, early 60s, tall, slim, modern, young thinking, very adaptable to people, own house, loves animals, walking, eating out. Box 440502 TXT

Women for women

SLIM, considerate and generous female, 36yr old, enjoys reading, cooking and music, WLTM easygoing, genuine female for friendship/relationship. Box 441264 TXT

40-YEAR-OLD gay woman, likes nice wine, candlelight, the sea, passionate people and places, muddy walks and cosy nights in, WLTM gay woman for friendship/relationship. Seaford. Box 894541 TXT P

FEMALE, 49 years young, genuine, 5ft2, medium build, blonde, looking to meet sensual, feminine lady, up to 55, with great figure, for sensual fun. Box 438851 TXT

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MEN for WOMEN

LAID-BACK, easygoing male, 20, brown hair/blue eyes, likes going out, quiet nights in, seeking girl to chill and have fun, possibly more with. Box 441436 TXT

23YR old guy, 6ft, medium build, dark blond hair and blue eyes, enjoys pubs, cinema, walks, keeping fit, seeking like-minded girl for friendship and more. Box 893423 TXT

HELLO, I'm a single dad, 32, blue-green eyes, short mousey hair, GSOH, happy, easygoing, good-looking! Seeking slim, attractive female, possibly Miss Right! Box 437057 TXT P

AVERAGE-LOOKING guy, 32, slim, tall, grey eyes, short hair, into regular things, pubs, restaurants, GSOH, WLTM similar-aged lady for fun evenings and possible LTR. Box 894163 TXT P

LOVING male, 33, 6ft, fair hair/blue eyes, slim. I like cinema, theatre, meals out, cosy nights in with a take away, keeping fit. Box 428767 TXT P

HELLO girls, I'm 34, a single Dad, blue eyes, cropped hair, 5ft8, love pubs, TV, film, wine, films and sofas, WLTM genuine lady for love. Box 437437 TXT

HONEST male, 34, 5ft8, medium build, short brown hair, green eyes, enjoys socialising, bowling, eating in/out, football, rock music; WLTM soulmate to spend life with. Box 441462

33YR old single male, 5ft10, blue eyes, enjoys the gym, WLTM a genuine, nice girl to see how it goes. Box 440320 TXT

EASYGOING male, 35, 5ft11, short brown hair, brown eyes, medium build, interests include cinema, meals, bowling, cosy nights in, seeking similar female 21-38 for friendship/relationship. Box 441424 TXT

VERY easygoing, faithful, laid-back guy, 35, 5ft11, stocky, dark hair, loves walks, poetry, laughs, nights in, conversation, seeking female 30-40 to be my soulmate. Box 441513 TXT

HONEST genuine male, 35, enjoys cinema, theatre, eating out, seeking kind, caring, adventurous female 40-65 for mature conversation and laughter. Box 441585 TXT

GOOD-LOOKING, 35yr old chap, no ties, looking for love and inspiration, someone to chase dreams and enjoy life's adventure with. Box 897436 TXT

I'M 35, 6ft, have a beautiful 3yr old little girl, very honest, caring, looking for someone I can love and make a new life with... Box 896178 TXT P

HONEST, kind, caring male, 37, blond, 6ft, enjoys walks, cinema, nights in/out, family life, WLTM like-minded, genuine female. Sarah, please call again, leave contact details! Box 430440 TXT P

DOWN-TO-EARTH, loyal guy, 36, looking for companionship, leading to a long-term relationship. Enjoys meals out, good company, conversation, cosy evenings in. Box 914917 TXT P

PLEASANT male, 39, 6ft tall, medium build, brown hair, enjoys rock music and socialising, WLTM a genuine lady for a fun friendship, maybe romance later. Box 441326 TXT

YOUNG-LOOKING 40y/o gent, slim, attractive, blue eyes, works away from home a lot so looking to meet a youthful female to enjoy life with. Box 438319 TXT

HI, I'm a down-2-earth male, 40, 5'7", medium build, green eyes, loves outdoors, sports, beach walks etc, WLTM an out-going female for good times. Box 899004 TXT

39YR old with own house and horses would like to meet pretty, down to earth girl who likes a relaxed, easygoing life. Box 901648 TXT

SEPARATED father, 6ft2, chef, enjoy good wine and food, walks on the beach, WLTM female for some fun and good company. Box 441499

CARING single dad, 41, 5'10", average build, young-looking. WLTM lady for friendship evenings out, maybe more. Recently quit smoking! Box 963530 TXT P

FRANK, 40, a carpenter, 6ft2, very down2earth, medium build, nervous! Seeking a female for friendship, companionship, maybe something more with the right person. Box 439853 TXT

HI I'm Nick, 41, 5ft11, enjoy cinema, eating out, golf, WLTM similar brown-haired female for good times and lots of fun, perhaps love. Box 440769 TXT

44YR old joker, loves animals and having lots of laughs, seeks a female of similar character for fun-loving relationship. Box 438023 TXT

LOVING guy, in Ashford. I'm 43, and have dark hair/blue eyes, medium build. I enjoy theatre, holidays, cinema, beach walks, music, bowling. Box 437557 TXT

HI I'm Richard, 43, dark hair, blue eyes, 5ft6, medium build, very loving, like holidays, cinema, music, restaurants, beaches; seeking female 34-57 for love/relationship. Box 440300 TXT

EASYGOING, honest male, 43, 5ft9, likes to enjoy life, socialise, travel, go on holidays, walks, seeking similar female with honesty and GSOH, for loving times. Box 441346 TXT

GENUINE male, 43, 6ft4, slim, enjoys bowling, cinema, going to the pub, gardening, WLTM similar lady for a long term relationship. Box 441595 TXT

HAPPY gent, 43, dark hair, blue eyes, 5ft6, looking for a woman for relationship 34-55, enjoying holidays, music, cinemas, music, the countryside, and maybe love. Box 441554 TXT

WARM, tactile male, 42, 6ft, likes socialising, pubs, clubs, cosy nights in, seeks like minded female, for friendship, leading to more. Box 388967 TXT

44YR old sociable, single dad, tall, fit, black hair, love cooking, countryside, animals, looking for a caring and loving female, GSOH for friendship and LTR. Box 434684 TXT

SINCERE, honest chap, 44, tall, slim, works in London, no ties, enjoys the usual socialising, quiet nights in, WLTM nice female for potential romance. Box 441453

SLIM/MEDIUM male, 45, 5ft7, looking to meet black/Asian lady, 30-48, for loving, caring relationship. I enjoy swimming, singing, cosy nights in! Romney Marsh. Box 441464 TXT

TALL, football lover, enjoys films, walking and cooking, WLTM a blonde female with blue eyes for a committed long term relationship. Box 441492 TXT

GENUINE, caring male, 43, 6ft, N/S, own home/car, varied interest. WLTM caring female, 37-45, for friendship and possible long term relationship. Box 372087 TXT P

CONFIDENT, loyal, laidback, divorced, 6ft tall male, 45,slim, professional, WLTM a slim, pretty, non-smoking, family orientated female, 38-45, for a loving relationship. Box 441611 TXT

BLOND, blue-eyed male, 46, 5ft8, enjoys socialising, cinema, live alone in Ashford, looking for a great lady for fun, friendship and more. Box 421664 TXT

OUTGOING male, 47, very young-minded, enjoys sports, football, playing golf, loves nice wine, meals; seeking smart, elegant, easygoing lady for love/happiness! Box 439354 TXT

HI there, I'm 47, 6ft, athletic, good-looking, divorced, own business, GSOH, love music, swimming, meals, cinema, theme parks! seeking slimmish lady 30-45 for possible relationship... Box 439919 TXT

47YR old male, 6ft, brown hair hazel eyes, medium build, active, likes football, clubs, pubs, cosy nights in, seeking witty, caring, trustworthy female. Box 437263 TXT P

DOG-LOVING guy, I'm 47, 5ft8, with short hair/green eyes, slim. I love gardening, country walks, sports - football/tennis, DIY, animals. Box 428800 TXT

YOUNG-LOOKING, spiritual male, 49, interested in birth charts, meditation, Buddhism, philosophy, countryside, seeks cat-loving female for mutual conversation, perhaps more. Box 441456

GENUINE, young-at-heart man, 50, likes eating in/out, cinema, music, country walks, WLTM a nice, cuddly lady, 60-70. Box 440903 TXT

ATTRACTIVE, slim male, 51, 5ft7, enjoys reading books, poetry, art galleries, keeping fit and Asian food, WLTM slim, interesting conversationalists for an active life together. Box 440620

OLIVE-SKINNED, 6ft tall, 50yr old man, with short hair and a GSOH seeking down to earth lady to share happy times. Box 914972 TXT

ATHLETIC male, 51, salt 'n' pepper hair, enjoys sports and riding my motorbike, WLTM young, fun loving lady to share my social life with. Box 441604 TXT

FUN to be with male, 51, medium build, greyish hair, like going out and staying in, watching films, beach walks, WLTM like-minded, loving lady. Box 899927 TXT P

HI, I'm 52, 5ft8, blond hair, blue eyes, separated, seeking a female, 40-50, that likes a laugh and good times, cinema, meals, to enjoy life! Box 440110 TXT

HI I'm Pete, 52, 5'7", easygoing, looking for friendship and maybe more in a woman 30-50, someone to talk to and keep me company. Box 435580 TXT

HAPPY-GO-LUCKY male, 53, 5'8", slim, enjoy life to the full, like the arts, looking for a nice, cheerful female to share happy times. Bexhill-on-sea. Box 436702 TXT

SHY, tall guy, separated, 53yr old, enjoys eating out, going for walks and sharing a bottle of nice wine, seeking female for companionship. Pevensey. Box 441437 TXT

GARY, 55 years old, 6'3", large build, ex doorman, solvent, looking for someone to love and to have fun times with. Box 900009 TXT P

CONFIDENT, sociable guy, 54, 5ft6, stocky, strong and fit. I work in antiques, and have a GSOH. I'm looking for a nice woman, 43-55. Box 426826 TXT P

LOOKING for an extrovert, attractive female, 30-50, with a passion for tactile, hungry meetings. I'm 56 and can't wait to hear your voice! Box 429567 TXT

SEMI-RETIRED ex-businessman, 59, 6ft, darkish complexion, salt/pepper hair, fit, likes a glass of red wine, travelling...normal things! separated and seeking female to share fun times. Box 890805 TXT P

WIDOWER, 63, seeking that special lady to share good times with, for companionship. I'm a keen gardener, 6ft, and still hard working. Box 440066 TXT

OPEN and honest 64 year old, divorced male, enjoys walks and talks, meals in or out, seeks lady of similar disposition, for friendship possibly more. Box 898863 TXT

Men for men

GENUINE open-minded male, 36, 5ft5, brown hair/blue eyes, slim, enjoys music, photography, social drinks, films, looking for mates to socialise with and hopefully someone special. Box 441528 TXT

38YR old good looking, tanned male, 6'2", like staying in, meals out, WLTM a happy person for good times and maybe more. Box 437964 TXT

GOOD, down-to-earth guy, 46, green eyes, dark hair, slim, enjoys holidays, music, pubs, eating in/out, looking for a male 35-50 for companionship. Box 441106 TXT

MATURE, bi guy, 50, 6ft, large build, likes nights in, looking for gent, 60+, for regular meets, hopefully leading to LTR. Box 897705 TXT

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29/06/08

'The Taliban took everything'

Refugee tells of life under Islamic regime and his dramatic escape from Afghanistan

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

AN AFGHAN refugee has shared the story of his terrifying escape from the Taliban and long journey to safety in Kent.

Naj Mirzada's account follows last week's KOS Media report that Dover-based Migrant Helpline, a charity that supports refugees and asylum seekers, is now helping more people from Afghanistan than any other country.

Kent County Council figures show 55 per cent more children from the war-torn country are coming to Kent than last year.

It is thought the pressure being put on young people to become suicide bombers and an escalation in hostilities are behind the dramatic increase.

Although Mr Mirzada, who lives in Canterbury, fled Afghanistan before the 2001 invasion by US-led forces he said he could understand how growing instability meant parents were increasingly prepared to send their children away.

The 19-year-old said: "Everyone knows at the moment there is lots of trouble and I'm sure if you go anywhere in Afghanistan it is dangerous."

The Taliban seized control of Kabul in 1996 and their reign of extreme Islamic law swept across the nation, placing huge restrictions on human rights and the freedoms of the population.

As a nine-year-old, Mr Mirzada found himself caught up in a fatal family dispute between his father and his Taliban-supporting uncle.

"My father was a very rich man and he had to leave Afghanistan because he knew it was dangerous.

"When the Taliban came they took everything from us and my father, he thought they would kill us and we should leave," he said.

"We were going to leave but something happened – my uncle was supporting the Taliban and my father did not like it and he kept saying do not work with the Taliban.

"It continued, with my uncle in the same job [with the Taliban] and after that they killed my family."

Dangerous

Mr Mirzada was working with another other uncle from his mother's side of the family, when the Taliban authorities came searching for him.

His uncle arranged for him to escape to Iran with a neighbour.

"I began to work and although life was OK, the money was not good and I worked long hours," he said.

But he said when he was 15 the authorities in Iran started sending Afghan refugees home.

"My uncle said 'it is dangerous [to come back] because they are looking for you' and they [the Taliban] had sent people round to his house," he said.

Mr Mirzada, as a streetwise teenager, organised his own passage to England after being told it was "the best place to go".

For six months he travelled by various means – in a "very hot" small boat with 27 other people "without any protection", in lorries and coaches.

He said he sometimes went four days without eating and arrived in Kent not knowing where he was.

Describing being caught by police at Dover, he said: "I was so tired. I had never been to jail I was so upset and just asked 'what have I done wrong?'.

"I had not slept well for six months so I just fell asleep."

Mr Mirzada is now waiting to hear from the Home Office whether his asylum application has been successful.

He has won regional awards for his volunteering work, has improved his English greatly and is doing a furniture-making course at college in Canterbury. He dreams of becoming a carpenter.

The last family he has remaining in Afghanistan is his uncle.

He added: "I think my uncle is still there. I have been trying to contact him as I need some evidence to prove to the Home Office that these things happened. I keep calling him because I cannot remember everything."

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SEARCH: Taliban came looking for youngster Naj Mirzarda

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KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

Don't just give up on our schools

KENT had more schools than any other county on the Government's so-called list of 'failing' schools.

And Cllr Chris Wells is right to speak up for them and the hardworking pupils and teachers at the 33 schools across the county.

Many were shocked and angry when the schools secretary launched the National Challenge and a list naming and shaming schools with the lowest GCSE results.

Due to Kent's selective schooling system, and leaving the debate surrounding the grammar schools aside, the county's secondary schools take the bottom, academically, 75 per cent of pupils.

However, the majority of schools listed are still achieving five good GCSEs, just not including English and maths, and the county's exam results are above the national average.

The Government has pledged funding to help schools achieve its target of 30 per cent of pupils getting five A* to C grades including maths and English at GCSE.

Of course our schools should be striving for that target and beyond. But surely it would have been better to allow them to try to reach it first before telling them they had already failed?

Life-saving mission

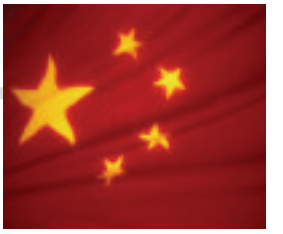
THE baby gorillas born in Kent and preparing for a journey to Africa will boost numbers of their species in the wild.

Although they face many challenges, the Aspinall Foundation has an amazing track record for the survival of gorillas released into its reserves – the best in the world.

The foundation's work is vital if this species is to survive beyond 2020.

OPINION: Beyond the city walls

David Nicholas tries to look past our blinkered view of China



DRIVING home from the airport after an exhausting flight from Beijing, it dawned on us that the programme on the radio was about China.

A couple of days later, the same nation blazed out from the front of a special edition of National Geographic.

China, it seems, is everywhere.

Two weeks spent covering the tiniest fraction of one of the largest countries on Earth can of course give you only the scantest impression of a place. But when that country – whether we realise it or not – is going to have a bearing on all our lives, maybe it serves to offer a thought or two.

My own preconceptions had been that China would be a country I would struggle to love.

Whereas India had left a lingering affection to the point of fascination, I really couldn't see China making the same impact.

And it didn't. A brilliant trip; loads of wildlife (our reason for going); decent food; some good beer, some bad; people generally friendly; no problems with state officials. All OK. Maybe.

Our observations were inevitably blinkered. We stayed for much of our time in Beidaihe, a resort on the north-east coast popular with Russians before the two nations had their spat.

The Russians are starting to come back, and their language adorns many of the resort's buildings, while the hierachy of the Communist Party of China apparently choose to escape the heat and fumes of Beijing by heading there in summer.

Quite what communism means in China now is anyone's guess, however. Even bearing in mind land and property values, there is clearly serious money in Beidaihe.

Opulence

There are impressive residences and a healthy scatter of apartment blocks, while we absorbed the general feeling of opulence almost without noticing.

That's the thing with pursuing a hobby to the point of obsession (we were out of the hotel by 5am or 6am most mornings, while we would walk anything up to 15 miles in a day) – the world around you sometimes barely registers.

But something you couldn't avoid was the dearth of people. Handy when you needed a taxi, but still a little strange for such a large resort. And there are, as we all know, an awful lot of people in China. You see it in Beijing as the thousands of cars wave through the highways with a quite extraordinary rhythm – from our limited experience, traffic snarl-ups didn't figure as a big problem. The system seems to work.

But, again, we were struck that, other than those motoring hordes, the city could seem virtually empty. No-one was out.

This is an Asian super-city – one of the metropoli that will be shaping the lives of many millions of people. Yet the vibrancy or crush (depending on your perspective) that we associate with, say, London or New York wasn't there.

Another surprise was the number of trees in Beijing – many clearly planted only recently and, if you believe the cynics, with an eye on the forthcoming Olympics – while the spotlessness of the Summer Palace grounds couldn't fail to impress.

There is of course a wealth of wall-space given to the Olympics, with the nauseating slogans that could have been dreamt up by a Sloaney PR agency, and more toy pandas than you could shake a stick at. The sporting tourists will surely be impressed.

Arable plains

But will they venture beyond the city walls? To the vast and depressing arable plains – broken only by giant lines of pylons and desperately poor villages – that still survive, as they must, to feed China's vast numbers.

Will they meet those members of the rural populace who stare at Western visitors with utter bewilderment in their eyes? People who have never ventured more than a few miles from the village in which they were born and who will be buried alongside their parents and grandparents at the edge of fields scarcely half a mile from their birthplace.

Will they see the manner in which the country's environment is being ripped up in the astonishing drive to urbanise and industrialise?

We were there to watch migrant birds – they still arrive in hugely impressive numbers – but they do so courtesy of a quirk in geography.

They land at Beidaihe not because there are acres of natural habitat but because they need to pitch down somewhere after a draining crossing of the Gulf of Bohai.

Every year there is a little less space for them to recover. "Enjoy Beidaihe's wildlife before it's too late," implore the wildlife tourist companies.

Such matters will be of little, if any, concern to China's power-brokers. This is, after all, as someone very much more familiar with the country than ourselves told us, a place where political dissenters "are still routinely shot".

Now we're approaching the little matter of human rights, so on this occasion let's pull up short.

As already said, our view had been blinkered.

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KOS1

Hot air from the sty

The hot air surrounding our public figures is becoming ever more nauseating.

The latest disturbance comes from Cllr Paul Carter, leader of Kent County Council. He had been asked (KoS, June 15) a series of reasonable questions about the commercial activities of his council. These questions, from CA Randall, of Tonbridge, were detailed and certainly proper.

What he got dropped on him by Cllr Carter was full of flummery and evasion, not at all what was expected from someone who is supposed to be accountable.

Cllr Carter made no attempt to answer these concerns and merely offered a bland – and unverifiable – claim: that all such investments of public money were helping to keep council tax down. That was almost an admission of failure to control costs, notably higher echelon salaries.

This followed the story about James Braithwaite who, as part-time chairman of the South East England Development Agency, spent £50,000 in one year in travelling on our behalf. This latter-day Gulliver, who already receives and annual pay cheque of £76,000 from the public purse, is said to read while "on the go".

However, all this nostril twitching is nothing when compared with the sty for fattening our honourable MPs and MEPs and their slurry of runaway expenses.

S John, Maidstone

Try again, Cllr Carter

I am disappointed by Cllr Paul Carter's weak response to the many issues I have raised about KCC's commercial activities (Letters, June 15). Last week's scant reply avoided addressing the six key issues I raised.

Cllr Carter seems to be confusing the issue by making regular reference to the commercial services operation at West Malling (formerly Kent County Supplies) making £5 million profit a year.

He is introducing a red herring with the intention of distracting from the real issues I am raising in relation to KCC's privately owned companies and using public money to support them in the form of loans to the value of £310,000.

My focus is on privately owned company activities: for clarity, Kent Top Temps and Kent Top Travel, and InsideOut, a building maintenance company.

I would like to make it clear that the profit he has mentioned, of £5 million a year, does not relate to these three private commercial activities. There is legislation regulating the setting up of local authority trading companies, and I have yet to be convinced that KCC is abiding by these rules to ensure a level playing field with the private sector. Using taxpayers' money in the form of loans is unethical, especially when there is no public consultation as to whether we even want these companies, let alone to financially support them.

My understanding of the legislation is that it is designed to allow local authorities to provide services where there is a gap in the market, whereby all the community will benefit. I can only reiterate there is no shortage of staffing agencies, travel companies or building companies in Kent. If KCC wishes to secure better prices, then such procurement should be through the tendering process, which will avoid the expense of incurring the infrastructure cost of setting up such companies.

I am convinced that the Kent taxpayer continues to pay for the infrastructure costs of these private companies (office space and KCC salaried staff).

Despite KCC stating categorically that these companies are "self sufficient and self funding" we have now learned of the commercial loan of Kent taxpayers' money to the tune of £310,000. Not my definition of self funding.Furthermore, I am intrigued as to why KCC did not use a banking institute to fund its business in the same way as the rest of the business community. What independent security was given for such a loan? If one of these companies starts to become financially unviable, do you plan to put more taxpayers' money in rather than lose face?

If they are totally independent, as suggested, can you give an assurance that the monies will come back into KCC's purse?

On another tack, I find it equally unethical that KCC invites tenders for transport routes, then awards some of them to its own companies. How can it prove that a fair and just process of awarding a tender has been followed?

My recent letter to Peter Gilroy, KCC's chief executive, challenging a number of legal aspects under the Freedom of Information Act, has now been referred to the director of law and governance and the legal department, and I am assured of a response by July 10.

These are serious issues which require direct and honest responses, not hiding behind "commercial sensitivity".

Once again, I invite Cllr Carter to respond in full to the issues raised in this letter, and to address the six key points in my letter of June 15.

CA Randall, Tonbridge

Letters continued on p34

Polyclinics idea, like the dogma, is nothing new

Polyclinics are, quite clearly, this year's Big Idea for reform/modernisation/continuing revolution in our NHS, with every primary care trust outside London having received instructions to build at least one (to show enthusiasm for the cause).

The concept is hardly new, however, having been put forward by Lord Dawson as long ago as 1920 – though this was not implemented as policy in the UK, but subsequently developed through state control in communist Russia, Eastern Europe and Cuba – with rather variable results.

Our PCTs in Kent are, quite understandably, sensitive to this political baggage and the hostile response the word 'polyclinics' receives in some quarters, and substitute the more anodyne phrase 'GP-led health centres'. But, as the spokesman quoted last week concedes, these could be purchased and managed by private sector corporations (as in Medway) – which hardly makes them 'GP-led'.

To add to the confusion, the distinction is then made – by another spokesman – that health centres are different to polyclinics as they offer fewer services, which is as unhelpful as it is unexciting.

There are 'under-doctored' areas in Kent and if central funding is required to build new premises to attract health staff, then the appropriate terminology of the day has to be employed to secure this.

But it is unfortunate that the confusion around these terms (as well as that surrounding 'community hospitals – but without beds') appears mired in dogma and contradiction, particularly if this is continued into the planning of such centres, though most are likely are to be overtaken by the next Big Idea or General Election.

Dr John Sewell, Hythe

YOUR LETTERS

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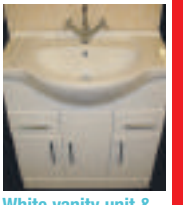
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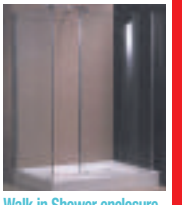
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Mark and Nikki Ashton of Tunbridge Wells are delighted to announce the arrival of their son Oliver Taylor Ashton born 30th May 2008 weighing 6lb 13oz.

BENNETT
Graham and Kelly are pleased to announce the birth of their son Lucas Charlie Paul on 12th June 2008, weighing 8lbs 3oz.

BOLTON
Sapphyre Star born on 21st June 2008, welcome to the family. Lots of love Mummy, Daddy, Shelby and Morgan.

BOWLES
Keeliegh Violet Patricia Bowles born on 12th June 2008 weighing 7lb 4.5oz. Daughter to Steven Bowles and Lauren Mitchell in Maidstone.

BROWNRIDGE
Matthew James Brownridge born on 11th June 2008 weighing 6lb 12oz. Son to Emma and Paul and brother to Oliver.

BUMSTEAD
Charlie Michael born on 8th June 2008, weighing 4lbs 11oz. Son to John Bumstead and Nik Grindley from Dover.

CAMERON
Rachel and Iain Cameron of Maidstone celebrate the birth of their son Alexander Iain Cameron on 26th May 2008.

CLARKE
Hannah Elizabeth born on 11th June 2008,weighing 7lb 7oz. Daughter to Stephen and Kerrie Clarke in Rochester.

COLE
Zoe Elizabeth Cole born on 2nd June 2008, weighing 7lb 2oz. Daughter to Sarah and Stuart, and little sister to Hannah in Larkfield.

DELSIGNORE
Kallum David born on 22nd May 2008, weighing 7lbs 4oz. Son to Steve and Amanda Delsignore in Deal.

DENBY-JONES
Lara and Ian of West Malling celebrate the birth of their daughter Ava Grace Denby-Jones born on 6th June 2008, weighing 8lb 1oz.

ELEY
Sara and Greg of Ramsgate are delighted to announce the birth of their son Zane Sidney, born on 3rd June 2008 at QEQM, Margate.

ETHERIDGE
Angela and James Etheridge of Loose celebrate the birth of their son Beau and daughter Niah on 8th June 2008.

FARRIER - CLARK
Casey Louise born on 8th June 2008, weighing 7lbs 2oz. Daughter to Leanne and James in Dover.

HUTSON
Lewis, born on 17th June 2008, weighing 6lb 7oz. Brother to Harvey and son to Joanna and Bill Hutson of Ashford.

KILVINGTON-SMITH
Laura and Robin of Leybourne celebrate the birth of their daughter Emily on 12th June 2008.

LASLETT
Debbie and Vernon of Ash are delighted to announce the birth of their son Joshua John, born on 21st June 2008 at Buckland Hospital, Dover. Our most beautiful and precious son.

MACHIN
Grant and Angela are delighted to announce the birth of their handsome baby son Tyler James William Machin who was born at Darent Valley Hospital on the 29th May 2008. Tyler was born at 4.25pm and weighed 7lb 11oz . Our thanks for the care we recieved from the midwives and staff at Darent Valley Hospital.

MARKLEY
Sharon and Peter Markley would like to announce the birth of their son Samuel Harrison Markley on 16th June 2008.

MAXIMOV
Kirill and Irina are pleased to announce the birth of their son Lev Maximov on 17th June 2008 in Maidstone.

PAGE
Lee and Lisa are proud to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Katie Rose on 31st May 2008.

PARKER
Samantha and Carl Parker of Maidstone, formerly of Deal, celebrate the birth of their daughter Jemima Molly Parker on the 9th June 2008.

PHILLIPS
Harriette Rose born on 14th June 2008 weighing 10lb 8oz. Daughter to Paul and Sarah in Greenhithe.

RODRIGUES-RIBEIRO
Carolina Rodrigues and Jo Ribeiro celebrate the birth of their daughter Beatriz Alexandra Rodrigues-Ribeiro on 6th June 2008.

SCARLETT
Tiffany Shannon born on the 11th June 2008, weighing 6lbs. Daughter to Richard and Claire of Ashford. Our Little Angel.

SKELTON
Jane and Neil Skelton of Maidstone celebrate the birth of their daughter Eva Lily Skelton on 1st June 2008.

SMITH
Barnaby George arrived safely on the 12th June 2008. Little brother to Henry and son to proud parents Warren and Sue of Chartham Canterbury.

SYERS
Tina and Paul Syers of Loose, Maidstone celebrate the birth of their son Daniel Paul John Syers on 10th June 2008.

TOMLIN
Paul and Stephanie Tomlin of Tonbridge are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Alexandra Ellen Rose Tomlin born 5th June 2008 weighing 8lb 4oz.

WATKINS
Martin and Jess Watkins of Wadhurst proudly announce the arrival of their baby daughter Lily Grace Watkins, born 26th May 2008 weighing 6lb 6oz.

WEBSTER
Mark and Tia are proud to announce the birth of Harrison Ty born on 13th June 2008 weighing 8lb 4oz. Brother to Christopher, Sean and Luke

WELLS
Laila Mai born on the 11th June 2008 weighing 6lbs 6oz. Daughter to Justin Wells and Katie Bygrave. Mummy and Daddys special little angel and proud Chloes little sister.

DEATHS

ALLENDALE
Gladys Marion Allendale passed away peacefully at Maidstone Hospital on 15th June 2008, aged 94 years. Much loved mother and grandmother and loved by all who knew her. Enquires to Birds Funeral Directors Tel: 01622 692949.

CRAKER
Ivy Craker of Deal died peacefully on 16th June 2008. Funeral service at t Andrews Church, Deal at 1:30pm on 1st July and at 2:15pm at Deal Cemetery.

GARNER
Irene Garner of East Malling died peacefully on 19th June 2008, aged 98. Funeral service at St James Church East Malling on Monday 30th June at 11.30am. All enquiries to Viner Funeral Director on 01732 842485.

GIFFORD
Harry Walter Gifford of Parkwood passed away peacefully on 15th June 2008 aged 93. Husband to Linda Gifford. All enquiries to Paul Rowland Funeral Directors of Maidstone on 01622 757177.

HALL
Stan Hall QPM of Loose, Maidstone died peacefully on Monday 23rd June 2008. Funeral service at Vinters Park Crematorium Friday 4th July at 12:30pm.

Letters from p33

With friends like this

Thanet MP Roger Gale's criticism of parliamentary democracy when it fails to act in accordance with his view should not lead him to accusing his opponents of being "vermin of the main chance".

Emotive language of this sort does nothing to improve the public's perception of politicians.

The 42-days detention without charge issue he is unhappy with was properly debated in the House of Commons, put to the vote and the Government carried the day with a majority. I believe it was Winston Churchill who said that in the Commons a majority of one was enough. Not view shared by Mr Gale, it would seem. In forcing a by-election on this issue, his friend and colleague David Davis also reveals scant regard for Parliament. Mr Davis will contest the by-election on the "principle" that 42 days detention without charge is a denial of habeas corpus. His concern for habeas corpus was absent when he voted – as did Mr Gale – in favour of 28 days detention without charge. It seems they have no objection to habeas corpus to be abrogated for four weeks, but not six. So much for principle. The police should be given whatever means necessary to combat those intent on mass murder. They deserve no less. Their request for a extension of existing powers has the overwhelming support of the British people and it is they, not David Davis or Roger Gale, who should be heard.

Robert Muir, Linksfield Road, Westgate-on-Sea

No quantum of solace?

I have been following with interest the letters in KoS regarding Kent County Council's privately owned business enterprises, including Mr Randall's letter on June 15.

I was pleased to see you published Cllr Paul Carter, leader of the council's reply, but feel his response was vague and failed to answer Mr Randall's enquiries. As someone who owned a small business I can empathise with the Kent business people who perceive the KCC private businesses as having an unfair advantage, which is patently the case if they are getting loans of taxpayers' money on terms different from those obtainable in the open market. I can imagine that conflicts of interest could arise and it certainly isn't in accordance with the honesty and transparency promised by government, particularly if there was no public consultation.

I am sure many taxpayers share my concern that KCC is using our money to set up businesses which they hope may make a profit while our school buildings need repair, social care is cut back, the roads are full of potholes and hedges need cutting back from obscuring road signs. The list is endless.

I would like to see a more detailed reply from Cllr Carter with specific answers to Mr Randall's queries. May I suggest the £310,000 loaned to these enterprises should be funded by private banking and the income used to deal with some of the pressing issues listed above? I look forward to the May elections!

SG Wilson Hildenborough

Pigs deserve better

In recent weeks, Animal Aid has visited 10 pig farms in five counties to see whether the pig industry's claims of high welfare were borne out in reality.

Instead of the idyllic images of straw-filled pens amid leafy trees, we found squalor, filth, death and disease. Where the industry portrays pigs growing up outside with acres of space to roam, we found dead and dying piglets living in barren, overcrowded pens. In the promotional images, pigs can root around in the earth. In reality, these inquisitive, lively and intelligent animals often had nothing but a metal chain – and sometimes nothing at all – to stimulate them.

Animal Aid's website reveal the wretched truth: that welfare standards on typical British pig farms are abysmally poor.

Kate Fowler-Reeves, head of campaigns, Animal Aid, Tonbridge

The democratic mouse

I am sure your readers have heard of the paperless office, but I wonder if many knew that these days 10 Downing Street is also paperless. We all remember seeing large petitions with reams of paper being brought to the door of Number 10.

Nowadays, petitions to the Prime Minister involve not much more than a few mouse clicks. That means it is easier to register your views on issues and there are various petitions currently online that are of interest to Kent residents.

One is regarding the proposals for a lorry park in Aldington. The petition asks the PM to press KCC to explain why the current site has been chosen over others. (http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/lorrypark/) This is an important issue for anyone who uses the M20 or lives near the site. Another petition urges the rejection of plans to close the Queen Elizabeth Foundation Resource Centre for the Disabled in Dartford (http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/QEFRC-DARTFORD/). A different petition asks to establish a general hospital in Dover, another opposes plans for nuclear power stations in Kent and there are petitions regarding airports in Kent. Residents across the UK are using this tool to help save post offices and schools, or to raise awareness. Once 200 people have signed a petition it will receive a formal response from Government.

The democratic process has never been easier! There are currently 8,500 live petitions and it is easy to set up your own.

N Hobday, Aldington

You've been quangoed

The first meeting of EKJAC – the East Kent Joint Arrangements Committee – takes place this week. At a meeting of the full council at County Hall on June 19 I warned members of Kent County Council that EKJAC was a bureaucratic nonsense. I complained that many hours of leading officers' and leading members' valuable time had been wasted sitting around tables with lawyers across the county discussing the creation of this pointless quango when there were far more serious issues to deal with in East Kent.

There are already protocols in place for joint working between local authorities, indeed there are examples in operation and we are told they work just fine.

EKJAC is not just a pointless quango, it is worse than useless, positively dangerous, giving huge powers for decision making affecting hundreds of thousands of residents and businesses to a very small, elite group.

It is argued that this quango was approved by four district councils and KCC, but in reality it was simply rushed through by five Conservative administrations in a desperate effort to try to fool people they can all work together.

Cllr Clive Hart, Thanet council and KCC, Margate

Family tree research

As part of my family tree research, I am asking for help with information about James Richard Lavender Kitcher, born at Boughton Aluph, on September 29, 1903, and who died in Malta on October 2, 1974.

His parents were James and Edith Annie (née Hill) Kitcher, who were married in 1902 at Chilworth, Hampshire. James Kitcher was a gamekeeper on a Boughton Aluph estate. Have I any relatives in Kent? Any help will be much appreciated.

Jay Kitcher, Wiltshire, jaykitcher@hotmail.com

Europe is here to stay

I suppose I should no longer be surprised at the ability of the anti-EU brigade to get their arguments in a twist.

While Mr Cheverst (KoS, June 15) quite rightly points out the scams that go on, he then goes on to criticise the fact that the Spanish and French governments subsidise their fishing fleets, but our Government does not. These are decisions taken by those governments, not the EU.

Likewise Mr Granger (KoS, June 22), who seems to think the anti-EU brigade has a monopoly of knowledge on things European, is critical of the Government for not properly funding treatment for cancer patients. Quite right, too, but again this is a UK decision. Of course he is right to be critical of the MEP scams, but as he himself points out, Brussels

Letters continued on p47

Homes & Gardens

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Diversity is all you need

Go wild for a mix of scent and colour

By **JANE JEWITT**

HOW can you best attract wildlife into your garden? Should you add a bird box, pond, a bat box or piles of rotting wood?

The modern suburban garden is too small to accommodate all of these, so is there anything you can do in a small space? Diversity is the key. Grow as great a range of plants as possible.

Starting with the big stuff, do you have room for a tree? A tree will give you a sense of structure and permanence; it will be home and larder to very many creatures.

Choose the largest your garden will accommodate. In a courtyard garden something the size of a crab apple could be big enough. It has beautiful spring blossom and autumn crab apples, which you can make into delicious crab apple jelly.

Other small trees include rowan, hawthorn, hazel and holly. (Not all hollies are small, so be sure to choose the variety with the greatest of care).

I am falling into the trap of making recommendations and that is not the way to increase biodiversity. A common gardener's tip is to look at what grows well in your neighbour's garden, and to plant the same in your own, but that is not what I am advocating today.

Long season

A garden full of many different flowering plants will be blooming over a long season and will attract small insects. Larger insects such as lacewings and ladybirds will prey on the smaller ones, and then birds will prey on the insects and their grubs.

A greater variety of plants will produce a greater variety of insects and therefore a greater variety of birds. So if you start with getting more plants and flowers into your garden, you will naturally increase the biodiversity as an increasingly complex food chain builds up.

MIX IT UP: The more varied the plantlife in your garden the longer the flowering season will last and so the more wildlife will be attracted to the area

Go and visit gardens such as Wisley and Borde Hill, where all the plants are labelled, and then you can choose your favourites. Remember to check they will be suitable for your garden.

Plants are changing all the time; with new cultivars being introduced every year, so as well as visiting gardens look at good quality garden centres and nurseries.

So, in your garden choose the tree first, then shrubs, climbers, wall-trained shrubs, perennials and annuals. Fill all of your outdoor space, there are plants suitable for every aspect. Each and every one will add a variety of possible habitat and food sources for small animals.

As the plants develop over a few seasons you will find more and more species in your garden.

I love watching the bats as they come out to feed on a warm evening. They feed during flight, and to think they can eat 3,000 midges in a single night – it must be worthwhile to give them a home in your garden.

To contact Jane Jewitt telephone 01732 882711 or email janejewitt@tiscali.co.uk.

MULTI-CULTURAL: Chilli and fennel are among the veg you could try growing

Be adventurous

IT'S time for allotment owners to swap their sprouts and marrows for calaloo and dudhi, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

More and more people are switching from 'normal' fruit and veg down on their allotments for something altogether more exotic, according to Gardening Which?

It said: "Pop into a market or greengrocer in some of the more multi-cultural areas of our towns and cities and you'll find vegetables from all over the world.

"Not surprisingly in such areas, you'll also find gardeners of diverse origins growing them successfully in their back gardens and allotments.

"There are gardeners from all corners of the earth cultivating their own favourite vegetables.

"Around almost every corner there are vegetables you wouldn't expect to find on a traditional plot. So why not be adventurous?

"Take a leaf out of these gardeners' books and swap the old allotment staples for something more exotic."

Among some of the more popular is flour corn – calaloo – which also makes a good ornamental plant, pumpkins ideal for Halloween, aubergines, peppers, methi, chillies, fennel, karela, and coriander.

The magazine said all of them can be grown with just a little extra tender loving care.

It's a bug's life

By HANNAH STEPHENSON

I'M already tackling aphids on my roses and picking red lily beetles off the petals of emerging blooms but not all insects are bad. In fact you can reduce your pests by attracting beneficial insects to the garden.

With National Insect Week coming to an end this weekend, we should consider good insects and bad insects. Good ones include ladybirds and hoverflies, bees, butterflies and ground beetles. Nuisance ones include the lily beetle, vine weevil, whitefly and red spider mite.

Beneficial insects are useful predators, eating slugs, caterpillars and aphids. A single lacewing devours between 1,000 and 10,000 aphids in its lifetime, while a ladybird larva can eat between 30 and 40 aphids a day.

Many solitary parasitic wasps can also keep down aphids and caterpillars. Even the much demonised harlequin ladybird, which some entomologists are worried will kill off our native ladybird, has a voracious appetite for aphids.

The week, organised by the Royal Entomological Society with the support of a variety of wildlife organisations, was launched by TV presenter Chris Packham and MP Joan Ruddock on Monday, with events nationwide.

"Bringing back bugs is easily done," says Carrie Pailthorpe, adviser for Garden Organic, a charity supporting the campaign. "Looking after the garden in an organic way encourages the return of insects and wildlife by avoiding harmful chemicals, growing insect-attracting plants and providing natural insect habitats that encourage a balance of pests and predators in our gardens.

"And it isn't just insects that will benefit from our efforts – insect loving wildlife will too. A nesting family of blue tits can

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Encouraging a few critters could be more effective than chemicals in your garden

consume over 600 caterpillars a day, and by providing insects with places to inhabit we can help redress the natural balance of our gardens."

There are many ways to attract beneficial insects to the garden.

Plant nectar-producing and pollen-rich plants such as Convolvulus tricolor, Limanthes douglasii (poached egg plant), dill, cosmos and French marigold and you should soon see more good insects on the scene.

Many pollinating insects, like bees, are drawn to purple, blue, yellow or white. Flowers from this end of the colour spectrum often have different coloured markings to direct insects to the nectar and pollen.

Plant traditional single-flowered forms and avoid the hybrid cultivars, especially those with double flowers, which are often sterile and therefore useless to nectar and pollen feeders.

If you have a garden that is large enough for you to have a small patch of waste ground, allow native wild plants to grow. Nettles in your garden will support a number of butterfly and moth species, but should be in full sun to attract butterflies.

Allow a section of your lawn to grow into a small meadow, if you have space. Different grass species interspersed with wild flowers such as ox-eye daisies will attract more insects into the garden. If you buy wild plants or seeds, make sure they originate from the UK.

Try to have some form of hedgerow made from native plants such as the hawthorn or hazel, underplanted with native woodland plants such as the bluebell Endymion non-scriptus and wood anenome Anemone nemerosa.

Don't trim your shrubs until later on in the summer. If you allow some of the fallen leaves and cuttings to remain in a section of the garden, you will provide useful shelter. Make small piles from broken crocks and stones to provide shelter for ground beetles and other nocturnal insects.

Avoid using chemicals if another control method will do. Be aware you may also be killing the natural predators that feed on the pests, such as ladybirds, ground beetles, hoverflies and parasitic wasps.

The Royal Entomological Society also advises us to try to live with pest insects and not automatically kill them. Easier said than done, when they are doing their best to destroy my beautiful blooms...

• For more about what you can do, see www.nationalinsectweek.co.uk.

REALLY WILD The common green lacewing is beautifully delicate, even in comparison to the Red Admiral butterfly. Another bug to encourage is the old favourite, the ladybird

All pictures: PA

Three ways to... fill space under a big tree

1. If you want to plant shrubs underneath, prepare the planting hole by making it bigger than the root ball of the plant and incorporate compost and bonemeal. Water the hole before and after planting.
Good shrubs to fill the gap include spotted laurel and Camellia japonica.

2. Plant carpeting plants such as periwinkle, which will provide a mat of blue in late spring and summer.

3. Build a wooden garden bench to circle the tree trunk and provide you with a place in the shade during the hot summer months.

What to do this week

• Harvest globe artichokes before they begin to flower.

• Apply top dressing to indoor cucumbers as their roots grow through the compost.

• Sow seeds of swedes to provide a crop from October to March.

SLEEP EASY: The County Bed Company is offering customers a good night's sleep

Sleep easy on a bed of happy memories

By CHRIS MURPHY

A GOOD night's sleep always sets you up for a good day ahead, but some beds just won't let you get enough shut eye.

The County Bed Company in Strood may be able to help thanks to its large range of both bases and mattresses.

How good a mattress is can make or break a snooze – and science has brought the technology along in leaps.

They have certainly come a long way since they were made from straw, horsehair, and springs. Memory foam is the current rage, according to the County Bed Company.

It has amazing moulding characteristics and the ability to absorb heat, the firm said.

It moulds to a body shape, whatever the size, and spreads weight evenly over the surface of the mattress, enabling peaceful and restful sleep.

A firm spokesman said: "If you wake up most mornings with a stiff back and cricked neck it is most likely your mattress is either too soft or too hard. Now is the time to buy a memory foam mattress, which will conform to your body weight and shape."

It said they are suitable for everyone, whether they sleep on their front, side, back, or all three, because the foam always moulds itself to the contours of the body, ensuring a comfortable position.

The company said memory foam is recommended by health professionals because it helps alleviate pain associated with many ailments and reduces pressure on the spine and joints. That makes it beneficial for those with back problems and arthritis.

But it is also hypoallergenic, making it ideal for allergy sufferers, as it is resistant to dust mites.

The no-sag property will even help partners get a restful night, they said, because they are not disturbed by constant tossing and turning.

And the mattress itself won't need turning as conventional ones do.

County said mattresses more than eight years old are usually past their best and don't give the support needed.

As we are all getting larger, County Bed Company says we should all think about getting a bigger bed.

A standard double only gives a width of just over two feet per person, which isn't really enough to find a comfortable sleeping position. But they said the Sleepeezee 1000 Pocket Memory bed offers the best of both worlds.

The pocket springs combine with the pressure-relieving memory foam visco elastic to spread the weight of a body over the maximum mattress surface, meaning far less pressure is exerted on concentrated areas of the body. The memory foam reacts to a body's temperature softening to provide a perfect contour.

For more details call 01634 722228.

Interior designer Helle Clarke helps with reader design dilemmas

Q I have had quite a few questions about kitchens this time, so I have made a list of general tips which should hopefully help you all.

A When you design and arrange your kitchen make sure it corresponds with the needs of the people who use it.

Compose your kitchen in a logical way – i.e. a sink is useful near the hob.

Make sure your new kitchen complements the rest of your house and the style is timeless enough so it wont date too soon.

If your kitchen is big enough then make space for an area for your children, where they can do their homework, play or pack their school bag – or just simply for them to sit in with you when you are cooking.

Choose kitchen units which are easy to clean. Some units are treated with a dirt repellent coating.

Good lighting is essential. You may want to consider internal lighting in the kitchen units.

Electric sockets must be placed where they are needed – and it is better to have one too many than not enough.

Choose flooring which is easy to keep clean – and check that it is not going to be slippery when wet.

Q Our lounge furniture is all in blues and whites. Chairs and sofas are covered in a dark blue material.

The room is light and the contrast seems to create a rather colder ambience than we anticipated. We don't have the budget to buy new furniture – is it possible to make the room seem warmer?

B Stepford, Sevenoaks

A You could try and work with browns and sands – terracotta works really well with blue.

If you go to www.dulux.co.uk you can browse colours on-line.

You can even get advice on the quantity you will need if you enter the measurements of the area you want to paint.

If you have any questions you'd like to ask Helle, please e-mail them to helle.clarke@btconnect.com or post them, marked Homes & Gardens Q & A, to KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR.

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Best of the bunch

Catmint (Nepeta)

Now I know you're going to worry about cats making litters out of your borders if you plant nepeta in them, but I've got loads of it in my garden and there's not a cat in sight. Catmint makes a terrific plant for the border instead of lavender, its grey-green leaves and lavender flowerhead borne on upright spikes.

It will thrive in sandy, stony and chalky soils but won't last long in heavy soil that's sodden in winter. And its flowers go on forever, from late spring until early autumn.

Regular deadheading will encourage further flushes or just give it a hard trim after the first flush of flowers to keep the plants tidy. Don't cut the stems in autumn, just remove old growth when new shoots start to appear in spring.

Varieties include N. x faassenii, a vigorous, spreading perennial growing to around 1ft (30cm) bearing pale lavender blue flowers with dark purple spots. Taller species include Superba, which grows up to 90cm (3ft) and Six Hill Giant with violet blooms. Taller catmints may need staking.

Good enough to eat

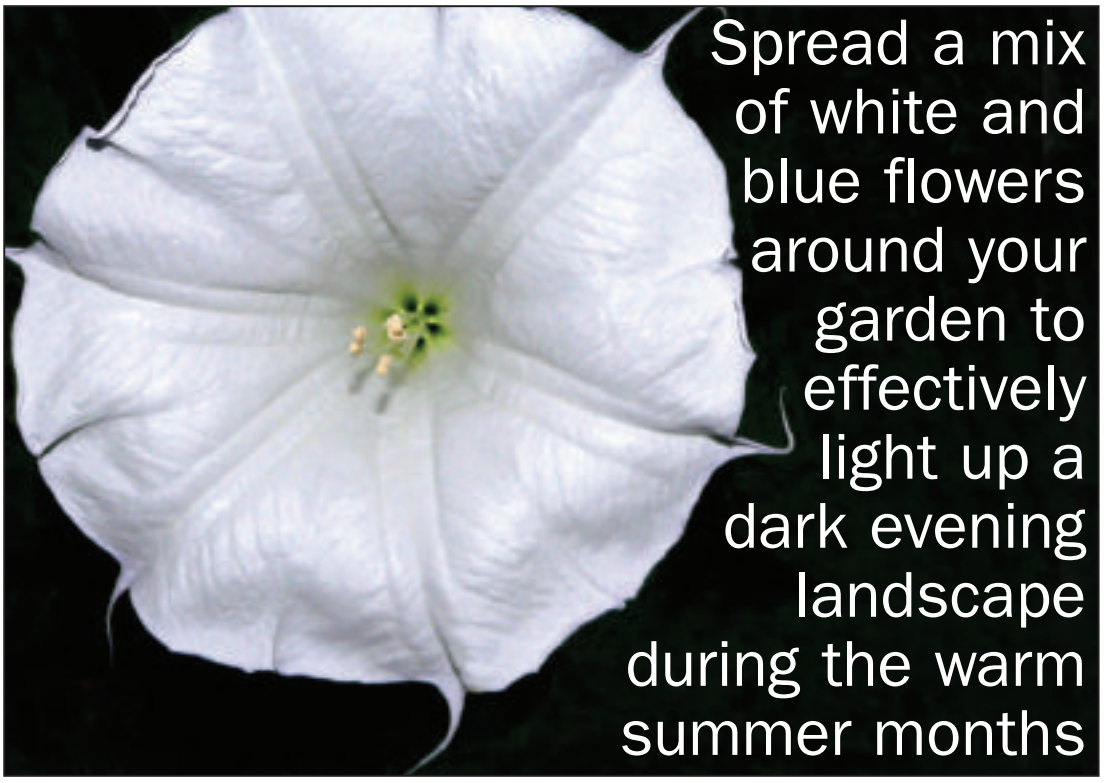
Protect your brassicas

Cabbage white butterfly caterpillars will be hatching now so keep them at bay by inspecting the undersides of the leaves of cabbage, broccoli and cauliflower.

If you come across small clusters of yellow eggs, you need to squas or pick them off. If you can't bear that, spray with Bacillus thuringiensis.

Covering the target plants with horticultural fleece or fine netting should prevent butterflies laying their eggs in the first place. Netting should be held away from the leaves and not draped over them otherwise the butterfly may reach them.

Enjoy a good



Spread a mix of white and blue flowers around your garden to effectively light up a dark evening landscape during the warm summer months

By HANNAH STEPHENSON

OUR gardens may look vibrant in the daytime, but at night they take on a different air as the fading light changes the colours, tones and fragrance of our outdoor space and certain plants come into their own.

Garden centres have seen a rise in night-blooming plants, according to new research, showing we are making the most of our evenings outdoors. Almost a third of us do gardening (not just watering) after dark and 70 per cent socialise in the garden after dark, according to the survey of more than 3,000 people, commissioned by Grant's Whisky.

With this in mind, award-winning gardener and TV presenter Chris Beardshaw, pictured, has created three blueprints for the perfect garden after hours.

Chris says: "The garden is often at its most vibrant and intense as the evening slips into night. The fragrance is enhanced and the quality of light, either from the setting sun or the moon, adds an extra dynamic character.

"Simply adding a few night-blooming plants, subtle lighting and the use of white or light coloured materials where possible, will reflect the moonlight and make a real difference to the pleasure you can get out of your garden after hours."

So, how can you make the most of your night garden? First, choose your colours carefully. Sizzling reds and oranges may dazzle during the day but at night they won't, so balance your palette with whites and creams to reflect the light.

Good choices include the pure white Cosmos Purity, Digitalis purpurea Alba, the white foxglove, and Cerastium Tomentosum Silver Car-pet (snow-in-summer), a vigorous mat-forming perennial which produces silvery white woolly foliage and a mass of pure white flowers when in bloom.

Night-blooming plants include Silene alba (white campion), a wild flower with delicate, evening scented white flowers, Ipomoea alba (moonflower), a night-blooming relative of the Morning Glory, and Mirabilis jalapa, also known as Four O'Clock, a native of Peru which offers both trumpet-shaped flowers and a jasmine scent.

If you are more concerned with fragrance, then include Nicotiana sylvestris, a tobacco plant variety growing to 150cm (5ft), whose flowers emit an intense scent, Oenothera fruticosa Fyrverkeri, an evening primrose which produces sweetly scented blossoms,

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night life

LIT UP: The Ipomoea alba (moonflower) is incredibly striking in a dark, night-time background. Clever use of lighting can draw the eye in a large open space. Also of importance is scent, which is where the Nicotiana Sylvestris is valuable

and night gladiolus, whose flowers give an intense, spicy smell at night.

For a mid-sized garden Chris advises: "Sow hardy annual seeds that come into their own at night, such as night-scented stock. If you use a cottage garden mix, the seeds are quick to grow and will reward you with flowers by the summer holidays."

Lighting is also important. Drape fairy lights over woven willow structures, or solar lights to give an atmospheric glow.

If you have a small garden or just a roof terrace, light what plants you have with uplighters to create a dramatic effect. By positioning the light carefully you can create a silhouette on the walls, which help give the impression of a bigger space.

If you have screens in your garden or want to cover walls, use scented climbers such as jasmine, which comes into its own in the evening. Candles could also be hung from screening in glass votives for additional soft lighting.

If you have a larger garden, fill beds and borders with plants from the white and blue colour spectrum, to help reflect the moonlight and make the garden appear to be glowing, Chris advises.

"You could even create a white garden with white roses, delphiniums and flowering shrubs such as Elaeagnus angustifolia Quicksilver. Use silver foliage plants too such as Stachys byzantina (lambs' ears) and some of the giant thistles."

Plant fragrant climbers like honeysuckle near to the house to enjoy wafts of its sweet scent drifting through open windows or greeting you when you step on to the patio.

The colour, textures and fragrance of a night garden can really make the perfect end to a perfect day.

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Picnics

SO long as the wind and rain hold off, going out for a picnic is about as British as you can get.

And it has turned into a boom industry, with areas around Kent vying for picnicking families.

The website picnicshop.co.uk has full details on 15 of the best in the county.

These are in Appledore at Parkwood Picnic Site; plus Bank Farm, Ashford; Beacon Wood Picnic Site; Pegwell Bay Country Park; Eastry Picnic Site; Farming World, Faversham; The Larches, Maidstone; Preston Hill; Blue Bell Hill Picnic Site near Maidstone; Groombridge Place at Tunbridge Wells; Brockhill Country Park, Sandling; Brattle Farm Museum, Staplehurst; Teston Bridge Picnic Site; Grove Ferry Picnic Site, Upstreet; and Manor Park Country Park, West Malling.

And the site can also cater for all the equipment you could possible want, with no fewer than six styles of basket ranging in price from £45 to £228, including a picnic basket just for babies starting at £85 and for both boys and girls.

A spokesman said: "We can cater for every picnic need."

Barbies are on the go

Enjoy delicious summer meals wherever you decide to stop

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

ALMOST everyone loves a good barbecue in the sun, but the British weather is not always happy to oblige.

Then there's the barbecue itself. There are many to choose from for all tastes – whether it's the quick meal with friends in the garden or something more substantial. If you like to picnic in the park with your burgers and sausages, the Coleman RoadTrip Pro could be right for you.

Costing £199, it can be folded flat to a conveniently small size and carried in the car. It even won best barbecue on TV's Gadget Show.

Company spokeswoman Hazel Blackaller said: "This is a new and improved version that goes up and down much faster than the old one.

"It has been selling in the thousands at specialist outdoor retailers and garden centres."

Coleman
The Outdoor Company™

She added: "It takes seconds to set up, hook up the gas bottle and start cooking. The Pro is ideal for those with small gardens, or even terraces and balconies."

Miss Blackaller said that, as with all barbecues, owners should wait for it to cool down before putting it back into their car. But the Pro has a few features to speed up and make the process easier.

"It's also brilliant to take camping for picnics, the beach or a home courtyard," she said. "It cools down quickly and packs away, so it will fit in the average car boot easily.

"There is a drip tray to catch grease and this can be easily wiped clean to protect a car's interior. All we need to do now is sort out the weather – we have had some sun already this year, but of course we need plenty more."

She said the RoadTrip Pro goes from folded to ready to cook in seconds, so you'll be ready to host impromptu meals al-fresco at the touch of a button.

VERSATILE: The Coleman RoadTrip Pro is easily unfolded from its compact travelling position

"The cooking surface is a good size, so despite its compact footprint, there is much more room than many other portable barbecues, which generally just take one sausage and one piece of chicken at a time.

"This surface competes with many other full-size permanently erected barbecues.

"It can easily cater for a family or small party. And it is all at the right height too, so no stooping over the griddle."

Coleman said the RoadTrip Pro has 7kW of power coming from two fully-adjustable burners, the porcelain heat tents give an even heat distribution, providing an optimum cooking performance across the large cooking surface.

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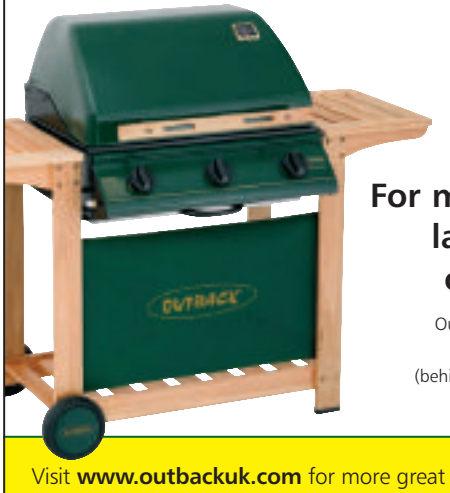

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Letters from p34

has little to teach Westminster in this area. Perhaps if we were to sort out our own British MPs first, their scams, huge pay increases and massive pension rights, our word might be stronger on the subject.

A few years ago I was talking about the EU to a Dutch acquaintance, and I asked how his country viewed British membership. He replied that at first it was welcomed because it was thought that with our history and democratic traditions, we would make a positive contribution. Instead not only had we not supported greater democracy in the EU, we had worked against it.

It is time we got ourselves sorted, realised that we are in Europe, have no real choice but to remain, and got down to working for the necessary changes. We might be surprised at the amount of support such an approach would receive. Of course the EU should have a proper constitution – even a model aeroplane club has that – though whether the one on offer is the correct one is another matter. Likewise, all decision making should be by properly elected officials and MEPs. Whining on the sidelines, and getting silly opt-outs, does us harm and impresses no-one.

Again the antis get their targets wrong. The main problem facing this country is not our relationship with the EU, but our poodle-like one with the USA that has drawn us into an unjustified war in the Middle East. The war has done our standing massive harm without making any serious contribution to solving the core problem.

If we had not got involved the lives of many servicemen would not have been lost and the money saved could have been better spent on cancer care and other uses.

B Hills, Orpington

Fundamental truths

So, as expected, the Bishop of Rochester has run away from doing the Lambeth talk in Canterbury, just because of the gay issue.

He and a few others are off to the Middle East to discuss what may well be the most important issue of our time, the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, but this could still have been done in Canterbury.

However, had he and the so-called traditionalists kept up with modern society – and the scientific evidence that gays are, and always have been, 'natural' – the idea of a potential split in the Anglican communion would never have arisen.

Unfortunately, this snub to Archbishop of Canterbury Dr Rowan Williams also appears to be part of the Bishop's and other traditionalists' idea that we should all be dragged back to some supposed moral golden age, in order to combat radical Islam as well as our social problems. No doubt also involving pushing gay people back into the closet. You cannot combat one form of fundamentalism by trying to impose another. Nor are our social problems the result of a lack of being a Christian nation, but far more to do with economic liberalisation.

The Bishop can still change his mind on attending the Canterbury conference by realising it is homophobia, as with all bigotry, that is the real abomination; and that the CofE tearing itself apart over what should these days be a non-issue, is itself the worst way of trying to tackle either our own societal problems or fundamentalism.

Ray Duff, Folkestone

Fishing in tough times

I recently met fishing industry leaders seeking help with rising fuel bills. They understand that I am not sitting on a pot of money that is rightfully theirs. However, other fishermen believe I am. There is no such pot of money. European rules allow governments to spend their own taxpayers' money to help businesses in times of difficulty, with a limit on the amount individual enterprises can receive. That means I would have to find the money the fishermen want from the public purse, competing with other priorities such as farming, environmental protection, or even projects to benefit fisheries. Even if I had found the maximum amount allowed, it would have given a typical trawler one month's worth of fuel – and then there would be no money available for another three years. One month of fuel is not going to overcome the serious problems facing fishermen that we need to tackle together. I want to see long-term solutions that help the industry adapt to a world of rising fuel prices and achieve what we all want – a viable, prosperous and sustainable fishing industry that provides jobs and quality produce.

There is already Government cash for the fishing industry on the table, including almost £30 million of grants to help the industry modernise and become more competitive. Government and fishermen are discussing how that and other millions can be spent to best effect. I am committed to doing all I can to help in these tough times.

Jonathan Shaw MP,
Minister for Marine, Landscape and Rural Affairs and Minister for the South East

Cannabis is a menace

While watching inter-schools football, I overheard youngsters discussing cannabis. Young people generally appear to be uninformed about its dangers – especially the much stronger varieties available today such as 'skunk' – and this really is a concern.

Cannabis has been linked to delusions and schizophrenia and research indicates that a high percentage of those treated for mental illness have smoked cannabis.

I am campaigning for schools to keep children better informed about the dangers of drink and drugs. Some children believe cannabis is safe and as a result are at risk. If you know of a dealer, call the police, or if you prefer to talk to a KCC warden, ring 07813 713083.

Cllr David Hirst, county councillor for Herne Bay

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Taster sessions give insight into being a teacher

By CHRIS MURPHY
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

ANYONE considering taking up teaching as a career can get a feel for what it's like at special taster sessions.

The sessions are taking place over the next few months and could help you make the career decision of a lifetime.

Both Medway Council and Kent County Council say the sessions ideal for those already doing advanced courses to get a real-world idea of life in a classroom.

The sessions are being held between September and November and will be funded by the Training and Development Agency for schools (TDA). They will give graduates or final-year degree students interested in secondary school teaching a chance to experience a day-and-a-half in the life of either a Medway or Kent school.

They can then find out how the education system works and how the national curriculum is taught.

Relevant

Katharine Pringle, the Medway teacher recruitment manager, said: "Currently there is a national and local shortage of secondary teachers to teach science, mathematics, IT, design and technology, music, modern foreign languages, and religious education.

"These courses are a good way to encourage graduates into teaching. We are working in conjunction with colleagues at Kent County Council to give graduates and students in the final year of a degree an excellent opportunity to find out what secondary teaching is all about and, more importantly, if teaching is for them."

And Steve Wood, teacher recruitment manager for Kent, added: "Although relevant experience is not a prerequisite to get onto an initial teacher training course, it will help high quality eligible candidates onto both post-graduate certificate in education courses and employment-based training courses.

"It shows the candidate has commitment. Best of all, the taster days are free and the information sessions are run as twilight and evening sessions."

For more information visit the the Kent Teach website at www.kent-teach.com or Medway teacher recruitment website at www.medway.gov.uk/teaching-careers. You can also phone 01634 331209 or email teaching@medway.gov.uk.

A MEDWAY school has been granted specialist status. The £50,000 raised by Chatham South School will be matched by the Department for Children Schools and Families (DCSF) to fund maths and ICT (information communications technology) facilities. Headteacher Vincent O'Mara, said: "This is wonderful news for the school and its students. It will make great departments even better. The school is known for its quality of work in these areas and it is excellent that the DCSF has recognised our success. It is relatively unusual for a high school to obtain maths and ICT specialist status. That makes the award even more satisfying. It is also very pleasing to be able to say to parents that this is a school where maths and ICT are seen as vital and we offer success in these areas."

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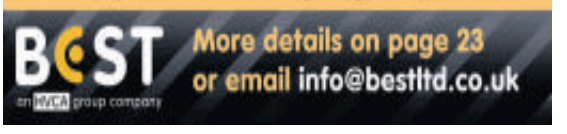

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The Commercial Department at Kent County Cricket Club has a vacancy for a **full time sales person** who has previous experience of telesales, IT skills and a knowledge of Microsoft office.

Based at The St Lawrence Ground in Canterbury, the successful applicant will be expected to sell Kent CCC advertising, cricket related hospitality, and conferencing and non cricket related functions at the Ground.

If you are interested please write – enclosing a current CV to:

Jon Fordham – Commercial & Operations Director at Kent County Cricket Club, The St Lawrence Ground, Old Dover Road, Canterbury CT1 3NZ or email: **jon.fordham.kent@ecb.co.uk**

Previous applicants need not apply.

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ips INTERNATIONAL

Operating in the drug & alcohol and mental health sectors, KCA (UK) provides a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services for adults and young people. The organisation provides services from over twenty service bases across Kent, Surrey and the London boroughs, employs approximately 300 paid and unpaid staff and has an annual income exceeding £10.5 million.

KCA Services in the Community

REF: 491 - OPERATIONS MANAGER - YOUNG PERSONS' SERVICES

Drug and Alcohol Services - Kent & Medway
Salary £34,991 - £42,681 (SCP 43 - 52) (pay award pending)
37 hours per week • Essential Car User Allowance up to £1056
Based in East Kent

The role offers a stimulating combination of tasks, including Service Manager support and project management covering quality, performance and operational issues. You will play a key part in ensuring contractual compliance and assist in service development work.

You will be able to evidence:

- Extensive knowledge of services for young people with substance misuse problems.
- Staff performance management and service management experience
- A sound grasp of business and strategic planning
- An appropriate professional qualification.

Should you wish to discuss this opportunity informally, please call Peter Gallagher or Claire Goulding on 01795 590635 or e-mail peter@kca.org.uk or claire@kca.org.uk

For an application form and information pack, please contact: KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT. Tel 01795 590635, Fax 01795 539351, email recruitment@kca.org.uk, website www.kca.org.uk.

Closing date: 13th July 2008
Interview date: 21st July 2008

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.

Charity No: 292824

Integrated Services Programme: Independent Provider of Children's Services

TUTOR/ TEACHERS WANTED

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For application packs and to register an interest please contact Sharon Cahill, HR Administrator on 01795 428097 or email Sharon.cahill@ispchildcare.org.uk

For informal discussion contact Toni Reedman or John Stevens on Tel: 01795 422044

Closing date for applications: 4th July, 2008

The successful applicants will be subject to enhanced CRB checks

All applicants must be committed to achieving and promoting equal opportunities in the workplace.

For more information about ISP go to
www.ispchildcare.org.uk

Avenance

Swiss Re, Castle Hill House, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent CT20 2TF

KITCHEN ASSISTANT

Hours of work 11.00 am - 3.00pm
Rate of pay £5.52 per hour

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person. The position would involve washing-up, cleaning and storing deliveries. Also help with preparing food for breakfast and lunch service.

Interested applicants should phone Jacqueline Kraft on tel: 0130 3224 447 or email timothy_hirtes@swissre.com for more detail and application forms. Closing dates 7th July 2008.

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Working hours are from 7am – 7pm or 7pm-7am

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To apply, write to: The Editor, Kent on Sunday, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR, or email ian.patel@kosmedia.co.uk

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Please call 01303 774888 for an application form or download one from our website.

Closing date: 11 July 2008.

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To apply, please send your application form quoting reference SVS224/KOS, to Clare Dickinson, HR Officer, Saga Services Limited, The Saga Contact Centre, Eurokent Business Park, Haine Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 5AE or e-mail: human.resources@saga.co.uk
Please call 01303 774888 for an application form or download one from our website.

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Previous experience preferred but not essential.

Pleasant, helpful personality is essential.

Please contact David Jackson, Service Manager on 01227 766777

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the waterfront

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Tel: 01303 220099 – Email: joe@rsfl.co.uk
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(Children's Home)

We are looking for people who want to make a difference and join our existing dedicated staff teams caring for disadvantaged children

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Operating in the drug & alcohol and mental health sectors, KCA (UK) provides a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services for adults and young people.

KCA Services in the Community

REF: 493
YOUNG PERSONS' DRUG AND ALCOHOL WORKER (EARLY INTERVENTION)
SWALE AND CANTERBURY
£21,412 - £25,320 SCP 26 – 31 (pay award pending)
37 hours per week
Essential Car User Allowance up to £1,056

You will be involved in a range of community based services for young people who use/misuse drugs, or are at risk of doing so. This will include early intervention and prevention initiatives with targeted groups of young people through giving advice and information, raising awareness and educating them about the risks of using drugs. Much of this will be carried out though group work and presentations, with some one to one work. It will include working closely with other agencies and professionals.

You need to have good substance misuse knowledge, excellent communication and engagement skills, casework skills, and the ability to be creative and innovative. Proven experience of working effectively with young drug and alcohol users is a prerequisite.

For application forms and further information, contact:
KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT.
Telephone 01795 590635, Fax 01795 539351,
Email recruitment@kca.org.uk website www.kca.org.uk.
Closing Date: 11th July 2008
Interview Date: TBC

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.

Charity No: 292824

Junior Engineer

Folkestone

Ideally, applicants will be in possession of Engineering qualification to HNC/HND or Degree level with experience of: CAD drawings, layout plans, parts drawings, piping, project planning, preparation of materials lists & purchasing installation of mechanical services plant, machinery & equipment.

Contact:
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Recruitment Solutions (Folkestone) Ltd (Agency)
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Operating in the drug & alcohol and mental health sectors, KCA (UK) provides a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services for adults and young people.

KCA Services in the Community

REF: 485 - YOUNG PERSONS' DRUG AND ALCOHOL WORKER
(EARLY INTERVENTION/TIER 2)
GRAVESEND, DARTFORD & GRAVESHAM
£21,412 - £25,320 SCP 26 – 31 (pay award pending)
37 hours per week
Essential Car User Allowance up to £1,056

You will be involved in a range of community based services for young people who use/misuse drugs, or are at risk of doing so. This will include early intervention and prevention initiatives with targeted groups of young people through giving advice and information, raising awareness and educating them about the risks of using drugs. Much of this will be carried out though group work and presentations, with some one to one work. It will include working closely with other agencies and professionals.

You need to have good substance misuse knowledge, excellent communication and engagement skills, casework skills, and the ability to be creative and innovative. Proven experience of working effectively with young drug and alcohol users is a prerequisite.

Previous applicants need not apply.

For application forms and further information, contact:
KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT.
Telephone 01795 590635, Fax 01795 539351,
Email recruitment@kca.org.uk , www.kca.org.uk.
Closing date: Monday 14th July 2008 at 5.00 pm
Interview date: TBC

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.

Charity No: 292824

Public Sector

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Go to *www.dartford.gov.uk* or call 01322 343677 for an application pack.

Closing date: 14th July 2008.
Interview date: 30th July 2008.

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Required immediately to support pupils with Special Educational Needs. Applicants must have a genuine concern for young people and should be able to support pupils up to GCSE level.

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For an application form, please apply to Mrs Angela Bamford at the above address.

Closing date 11th July 2008

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Surrenden Road, Folkestone, Kent. CT19 4ED
Email: samantha.spratley@pent-valley.kent.sch.uk
Tel: 01303 277161 **Fax:** 01303 279342

Previous applicants need not apply
Closing date for completed applications: 11th July 2008

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Bail & Remand Officer (Ref: CA0116S)

£18907 - £25320 per annum Full time (37 hours per week)

Located at the Youth Offending Team (67 Balfour Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 6QX)

An opportunity has arisen to recruit an enthusiastic, flexible Bail & Remand Officer to provide 'front line' YOT services to courts whilst working as part of a specialist court team. You will supervise clients subject to bail support packages. You will also provide support to young people on remand as well a range of other generic youth justice duties.

Although the post does not require a professional qualification you'll have some experience of working with young people who present challenging behaviour and their parent(s)/carer(s).

Any offer of employment for these posts will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

For further information or an informal discussion please contact Ashley Manning, Senior Practitioner, on 01634 336237.

Closing Date: 11 July 2008

For an application pack or to apply vist www.medway.gov.uk or call 01634 333333 Mon to Fri 8am – 8pm, Sat 9am – 1pm or **01634 332843** 24-hour answerphone.
Alternatively email jobs@medway.gov.uk quoting the reference.

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Your chance to shape our new £76m campus

Quality Improvement Manager

Salary: circa £40,000

We are seeking to appoint an innovative manager to develop and maintain our quality assurance procedures and improvement strategies. You will play an important role in building on our strong Self Assessment practice and developing our portfolio of quality improvement initiatives. Reporting to the Director of Standards and Quality Improvement, you will work closely with the Heads of Schools across the college. The ability to work effectively with external quality agencies is also an important aspect of the role.

For an application form and job description please do one of the following:

- Email: job.applications@midkent.ac.uk
- Refer to the website: www.midkent.ac.uk
- Telephone the Personnel Department on 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine)

Closing Date: Thursday 10 July 2008
Interviews: Friday 18 July 2008

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE | POSITIVE ABOUT DISABLED PEOPLE | Action for Business College

Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunity employer

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

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Contact Jamie Bromfield or Erica Eversfield on 01303 815648 or email fostering@caldecottfoundation.co.uk

The Caldecott Foundation, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SP.

Thinking of Returning to Teaching?

If you are a qualified teacher and considering returning to the profession after a career break, Kent County Council is running two information events about courses designed to help you make a successful return on

Friday 4th July at 10:00 am at Oakwood House in Maidstone and

2:00 pm at Hadlow Manor, Hadlow, Nr Tonbridge

For more information call Rajmund Brent at KCC on 01622 203800 or visit www.kent-teach.com

Kent County Council

Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
Maidstone Road, Rochester, Kent ME1 3EL
Tel: 01634 844008
www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk
Age range of students 11-18

We require an

ICT TECHNICIAN

37 HRS PER WK • TERM TIME ONLY

to start September 2008. Salary will be according to age and experience and will be paid at Medway grade C1-Salary range £16,217 - £21,421 Pro rata (Pay award pending).

You will work as part of a team of three technicians to oversee all aspects of the school's curriculum network, building and testing applications, liaising with suppliers or providers in fault finding and fixing. The ability to work under pressure and have a flexible approach to your workload is a necessity.

Please contact Mrs J Freeman for an application form and job specification on 01634 844008. The deadline for application forms to reach the school will be 7th July 2008.

training 4 business

Employer Training Consultant

Through Training 4 Business, employers across Kent have access to a wide-range of training solutions, from advice and development of training programmes to ongoing training support. Kent businesses across all industries have benefited from the flexible and professional courses provided by Training 4 Business.

Training 4 Business is dedicated to providing a high-quality service to employers and is seeking to expand its team of training consultants in order to aid the development of employer engagement. If you're motivated by a challenge and have the ability to meet the needs of a range of employers, then we want to hear from you.

Closing date for all applications: 12pm Tuesday 8th July 2008.

Interviews to be held on or after Wednesday 16th July 2008.

For further information, including salary details and an application pack, please contact the Human Resources Department on either 0845 207 8222 (24 hour answer phone), email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk or visit www.southkent.ac.uk

All posts are subject to a disclosure check by the Criminal Records Bureau.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all employees to share this commitment.

Applications are welcome from suitably qualified candidates regardless of ethnicity, gender, age, disability, sexuality or religion.

SKC South Kent College
ASHFORD • DOVER • FOLKESTONE

Innovation Experience Excellence

Hadlow College is Kent's premier land-based college and one of the top three such colleges in the United Kingdom.

The College lies in a picturesque part of West Kent, with a 256 hectare campus boasting an enviable array of facilities to enable students to maximise learning and gain realistic experience of the workplace for their future careers.

A £55 million capital project is planned over the next 2 years, aimed at building the best facilities of their kind in the Country.

The College has made a phenomenal journey in the last 5 years, with year on year growth in course provision and student numbers. We now have the following new job opportunity for a professional, experienced and passionate individual to join us as we continue on that journey and strive towards Grade 1 'outstanding' status.

Quality Co-ordinator

£19,123 to £21,762 per annum

This high profile role will provide a wide range of administrative and secretarial support to the Head of Quality & Staff Development and contribute to the effective implementation of quality systems and monitoring of teaching and learning across the College.

The successful candidate will have good, current secretarial and administrative skills with experience of setting up and maintaining record keeping systems, have excellent IT, communication and organisational skills as well as the ability to work on their own initiative and as part of a team. Previous experience of working in Education and supporting at a senior management level would also be an advantage.

To receive an information pack and application form please telephone the Human Resources Department on 01732 850551 or e-mail 'jobs@hadlow.ac.uk'.

The closing date for applications is Friday, 11th July 2008.

Visit Hadlow College at www.hadlow.ac.uk

Hadlow College is a committed equal opportunities employer.

THE ELEMENTS OF LIFE

THE THOMAS AVELING SCHOOL

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

(A Foundation Technology College)
Arethusa Rd, Rochester, Kent ME1 2UW
Headteacher: Mr R J Hart, BEd, MA
Tel: 01634 844809 Fax: 01634 818385

CLERK TO THE GOVERNORS

Medway NJC 30 - £24545 pro rata (£12.72 per hour)

The Governing Body are seeking to appoint a Clerk to the Governors with effect from 1st September 2008, or earlier. The successful candidate would ideally be able to offer a flexible approach to hours worked, estimated at 220 hours per annum, worked on a possible half day per week basis, to include some early evening commitment.

Training will be available for the successful candidate.

Applications are invited from candidates, with relevant inter-personal and ICT skills, who can support the Governing Body by providing an excellent and reliable administrative service.

Applications by letter, should be addressed to the Chairman of Governors, at the above address or by e mail to office@thomasaveling.co.uk . Please include the names and addresses of two referees.

Closing date: Friday 11th July 2008

achievement employability experience development

Sheppey College

Sheppey College is part of Canterbury College. Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

Senior Learning Resources Officer Post Ref: S3
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,775 per annum

Learning Support - Construction and Key Skills Post Ref: 08/92
18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time, salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum

Learning Support - Administration, Finance and Key Skills Post Ref: 08/93
18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time, salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum

Learning Support - Administration and Key Skills Post Ref: 08/94
18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time, salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon.

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer

Valence School

Valence School is expanding and we require some additional dynamic staff to support the work of the School. Could we be looking for someone like you?

Valence School is a KCC all age residential and day special school for children and young people with physical disabilities, complex medical needs and associated learning and communication difficulties.

We have the following vacancies:

RE / Humanities Co-ordinator (full time)
Main teaching scale + SEN allowance

ICT Teacher (part time)
Main teaching scale + SEN allowance

Personalised Care and Inclusion Leader
(full time Kent Scheme 7/8 £20,061 - £26,159)

Student Support Assistants
(morning & evening shifts Kent Scheme 3 £13,959 - £15,826 pro rata)

Keyworkers
(full and part time Kent Scheme 5 £16,627 - £18,288)

Waking Night Staff
(part time Kent Scheme 3 £13,959 - £15,826 plus unsocial hours enhancement)

Cleaners
(flexible evening shifts from £6.46 per hour)

Minibus Driver and Maintenance
Clean appropriate licence required
(full time Kent Scheme 5 £16,627 - £18,288)

Receptionist
(morning and holiday cover part time Kent Scheme 3 £13,959 - £15,826 pro rata)

Fundraiser
(remunerated at a percentage of the amount raised)

For further information about these new roles at Valence, please contact the Staff Services Team on 07788421073 or email vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk.

Closing date for all applications is Friday 4th July 2008.

Classic Education

Is one of Kent's leading education recruitment agencies

TEACHERS

Required now for supply and long term work in your local area

EXCELLENT DAILY RATE

Call for an immediate interview

01474 359333

Or E-mail; office@classiceducation.co.uk

www.classiceducation.co.uk

A Kent based company you can rely on

Teachers Needed

Primary, Secondary and SEN.

Capita Education Resourcing is the leading provider of educational staff throughout the UK.

Our dedicated and friendly Kent team can provide you with:

- ✔ Daily/weekly/termly supply opportunities
- ✔ Excellent rates of pay – paid weekly
- ✔ Free in-service training and CPD assessment
- ✔ Free use of resource centre
- ✔ An out-of-hours service

Even if you can only spare one day a week we would love to hear from you.

To find out more information and to register with us, please call us free on:
0800 731 6871
or e-mail
jean.read@capita.co.uk

CAPITA EDUCATION RESOURCING (Agy)

Committed to equal opportunities

achievement employability experience development

Canterbury College

Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

Co-ordinator – Literacy and Numeracy (Basic Skills) Post Ref: CO131
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £26,365 per annum

Co-ordinator for HE Music provision Post Ref: 08/89
2 x 18.5 hrs per week or 1 x 37 hrs per week, salary starting from £26,365 per annum

Lecturer in Hospitality & Catering Post Ref: 08/47
18.5 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Lecturer Basic Skills and ESOL Post Ref: 08/90
27.75 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Lecturer Basic Skills and ESOL Post Ref: 08/91
37 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum

Lecturer in Chemistry Post Ref: 06/182
18.5 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Lecturer Key Skills within Early Years and Public Services Post Ref: 08/39
37 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum

Higher Education Lecturer in Building Surveying Post Ref: 07/28
9.25 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Higher Education Supply Lecturers are required in the following areas:

Fine Art Practice Post Ref: S/HE

Sculptural Practice Post Ref: S/HE

Early Years Studies Post Ref: S/HE

Care Management Post Ref: S/HE

Counselling (must be BACP accredited) Post Ref: S/HE
Various hours available, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum.

Supply Lecturers in Amenity Horticulture Post Ref: S/AH
Various hours available from July 2008, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum.

Supply Lecturers in Dental Nursing Post Ref: S/DN
Various hours available, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum.

Infrastructure (Network) Team Leader Post Ref: NTL1
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £23,651 per annum

Network Application Technician (Advanced) Post Ref: ATA
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,775 per annum

Media and Public Relations Officer Post Ref: 08/32
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,775 per annum

Curriculum Support Assistant Construction Post Ref: 06/201
18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks per year term time.
Salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum

Pre 16 Learning Support Post Ref: 07/17
25 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time.
Salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum
Fixed term post ending 31 August 2010

Student Support Finance Advisor Post Ref: LSF1
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £14,535 pro rata per annum

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
The closing date for the above posts is Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon.

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Close to City Centre
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer

South Kent College welcomes students of all ages and offers an exciting range of courses from Entry Level up to Level 7. SKC's main campuses are located in Ashford, Dover and Folkestone. This includes the College's specialist Ashford School of Art and Design. To help students acheive their full potential, we have the following opportunities:

Technician – Motorcycles **Ref: S2144**
18.5 hours per week
Dover

Working as a member of the Kent Motor Cycle Technology Centre to deliver a co-ordinated, integrated learning programme, you will support staff and students in the day-to-day running of the workshops.

Credit Controller **Ref:S2143**
37 hours per week
Folkestone

You will be responsible for monitoring and controlling all debts in an accurate and timely manner, ensuring sales ledger invoices are raised and journal entry. Assistance in finance audits and annual enrolment processes will also be required.

Tutor – KCC Project x 2
Nursing qualification **Ref: T1333**
Supervisory and Performance Management Courses **Ref: T1334**
Variable hours
Folkestone

You will create and deliver a range of short courses (3-6 hours in duration) on the KCC Care Project across a variety of locations. You will be responsible for the management of students learning, all design, delivery and evaluation of training events.

Lecturer in Public Services **Ref. T1335**
27.75 hours per week (Maternity cover until 30th June 2009)
Folkestone

You will teach on a variety of Public Services courses to students aged 14 and over. Ideally, you have taught before, have worked with 14-19 year olds and have 3 years recent experience in a uniformed role.

Lecturer in Sports **Ref: T1328**
18.5 hours per week
Dover

The purpose of this post is to deliver both theory and practical lessons on a range of sports courses, focusing primarily on sports coaching and sports psychology. The teaching of one or more Key Skills across the department will also be required.

The closing date for the receipt of all completed application forms for the above vacancies is 5pm on Wednesday 16th July 2008.

For further information, including salary details and an application pack for the above vacancies please contact the Human Resources Department on either 0845 207 8222 (24 hour answerphone), email: humanresources@southkent.ac.uk or visit www.southkent.ac.uk

All posts are subject to a disclosure check by the Criminal Records Bureau.
We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all employees to share this commitment.
Applications are welcome from suitably qualified candidates regardless of ethnicity, gender, age, disability, sexuality or religion.

SKC South Kent College
ASHFORD • DOVER • FOLKESTONE

Receive a helping hand searching for a new job

Register your details and we'll email you daily with new jobs that match your selected criteria

JobsforKent.co.uk

The smart way to find a job in the County

POWERED BY KOS MEDIA

JobsforKent.co.uk

100s of Local Jobs online

Administration, Secretarial, PA

Learning Support - Administration and Key Skills

Sheerness
Salary: from £16,364 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Personnel Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/94
Tel: 01227 811282
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Learning Support - Administration, Finance and Key Skills

Sheerness
Salary: from £16,364 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Personnel Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/93
Tel: 01227 811282
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Receptionist/ Administration Assistant

Aylesford
Salary: Kent Scheme 3 - £13,959 to £15,826 pro rata
Closing Date: 11th July 2008
Kent Scheme 3 - £13,959 to £15,826 pro rata 37 hours per week 40 weeks per year (Term time plus 10 additional days to be arranged)
The successful candidate will provide reception duties and general clerical assistance to this busy school. Applicants should have accurate typing skills, flexible attitude and knowledge of Word and Excel. First aid experience would be an advantage, although training will be given. Closing date for applications is Friday 11th July 2008.
To apply/more information:
Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Catering, Hospitality

Bar and Waiting Staff

Deal
Salary: Wage Negotiable
Mature, experienced bar and waiting staff to work on own and as part of a small team.
To apply/more information:
The Waterfront Restaurant & Bar
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 361728
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Experienced Bar Staff

Sittingbourne
Salary: tba
EXPERIENCED BAR STAFF REQUIRED FOR MARINA CLUBHOUSE AT CONYER
Friday/Saturday/Sunday/Monday
To apply/more information:
Simon
Smedley Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 521562
Email swale.marina@virgin.net

Experienced Chef

Deal
Salary: Wage Negotiable
Experienced Chef wanted, must be able to write menus and work under pressure as part of a small team.
To apply/more information:
The Waterfront Restaurant & Bar
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 361728
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Kitchen Assistant

Folkestone
Salary: £5.52 per hour
Closing Date: 7th July 2008
Hours of work 11.00 am - 3.00pm. We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person. The position would involve washing-up, cleaning and storing deliveries. Also help with preparing food for breakfast and lunch service. Interested applicants should phone Jacqueline Kraft on tel: 01303 224447 or email timothy_hirtes@swissre.com for more detail and application forms.
To apply/more information:
Jacqueline Kraft
Swiss Re
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 224447
Email timothy_hirtes@swissre.com

Customer Service, Call Centre

Full-Time Customer Service Agents – Contact Centre

Ramsgate
Salary: Competitive salaries + excellent benefits packages
Closing Date: 18 July 2008
At Saga, we pride ourselves on having staff that our customers can rely on to offer a friendly, empathetic service over the phone: people who listen to their requirements with patience and understanding and meet them promptly and accurately. If that describes you, there's plenty to look forward to here. Firstly, you'll become a valued member of a supportive team who'll go out of their way to make you feel at home from day one. Then there's excellent training that helps you build the skills to provide a superb service to our customers, as well as spot sales opportunities and exceed every target you're set. Last but definitely not least, there are the generous benefits on offer – all geared towards helping you enjoy a better lifestyle. These include an active social club, subsidised restaurant, medical insurance, pension, excellent career development opportunities, concessions for holidays and travel, and much more. So if you have the qualities we're after and are happy to work in an ever-changing and fast-paced environment, then you could be just what we're looking for. To apply, please send your application form quoting the reference to Clare Dickinson, HR Officer, Saga Services Limited, The Saga Contact Centre, Eurokent Business Park, Haine Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 5AE or e-mail: human.resources@saga.co.uk for an application form or download one from our website saga.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Clare Dickinson
Saga
Quoting Job Ref: SVS224/KOS
Tel: 01303 774888
Email human.resources@saga.co.uk

Domestic

Sports Pavilion Supervisor Cleaner

Sittingbourne
Salary: tba
required 6 days (incl. w/e) 15/18hrs per wk from 7.30am
To apply/more information:
Brian
UK Paper Leisure Club
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 564212
Email admin@ukpleisure.co.uk

Education, Teacher, School

Clerk to the Governers

Ashford
Salary: £24545 pro rata (£12.72 per hour)
Closing Date: Friday 11th July 2008
The Governing Body are seeking to appoint a Clerk to the Governors with effect from 1st September 2008, or earlier. The successful candidate would ideally be able to offer a flexible approach to hours worked, estimated at 220 hours per annum, worked on a possible half day per week basis, to include some early evening commitment. Training will be available for the successful candidate. Applications are invited from candidates, with relevant inter-personal and ICT skills, who can support the Governing Body by providing an excellent and reliable administrative service. Applications by letter, should be addressed to the Chairman of Governors, at the above address or by e mail to office@thomasaveling.co.uk . Please include the names and addresses of two referees.
To apply/more information:
Thomas Aveling School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 844809
Email office@thomasaveling.co.uk

Co-ordinator – Literacy & Numeracy (Basic Skills)

Canterbury
Salary: Starting from £26,365 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: C0131
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Co-ordinator for HE Music provision

Canterbury
Salary: starting from £26,365 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/89
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Cover Supervisor

Aylesford
Salary: Kent Scheme 5 - £16,627 to £18,288 pro rata
Closing Date: 4th July 2008
Kent Scheme 5 - £16,627 to £18,288 pro rata 35 hours per week 39 weeks per year. We are seeking a well organised, confidential individual with good communication skills. Responsibilities to include:
• Supervise classes when a teacher is absent. • Examination invigilation.
• Accompany staff on school trips.
• Some administration tasks. Training and career development will be given to the successful candidate. Closing date for applications is Friday 4th July 2008.
To apply/more information:
Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Credit Controller

Folkestone
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 5pm on Wednesday 16th July 2008
To apply/more information:
South Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: S2143
Tel: 0845 207 8222
Email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk

Curriculum Support Assistant Construction

Canterbury
Salary: Starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 06/201
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Higher Education Lecturer in Building Surveying

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 07/28
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Higher Education Supply Lecturers

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Infrastructure (Network) Team Leader

Canterbury
Salary: Starting from £23,651 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: NTL1
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Learning Support - Construction and Key Skills

Sheerness
Salary: from £16,364 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Personnel Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/92
Tel: 01227 811282
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Lecturer Basic Skills and ESOL (27.75 hrs per week.)

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/90
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Lecturer Basic Skills and ESOL (37 hrs per week)

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/91
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Lecturer in Chemistry

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 06/182
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Lecturer in Hospitality and Catering

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/47
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Lecturer in Public Services

Folkestone
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 5pm on Wednesday 16th July 2008
To apply/more information:
South Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: T1335
Tel: 0845 207 8222
Email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Sports

Dover
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 5pm on Wednesday 16th July 2008
To apply/more information:
South Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: T1328
Tel: 0845 207 8222
Email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk

Lecturer Key Skills within Early Years and Public Services

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/39
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Media and Public Relations Officer

Canterbury
Salary: Starting from £20,775 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/32
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Network Application Technician (Advanced)

Canterbury
Salary: Starting from £20,775 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: ATA
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Network Manager

Aylesford
Salary: KS8 £22,825 - £26,159
Closing Date: 11th July 2008
Aylesford School – Sports College is an innovative forward looking Specialist Sports College. We have a strong community ethos where we put the learner at the heart of everything we do. At Aylesford School – Sports College we can offer you:- • A brand new school.
• Outstanding new facilities in all areas. • A highly regarded CPD programme with personal professional pathways. • A buzzing and vibrant staff who are friendly and keen to help one another and develop their IT skills. We seek to appoint a well qualified, highly skilled, confident and articulate team player who has a number of years experience as a network technician or manager. As a Microsoft and Cisco Academy, we take great pride in our extremely efficient and effective whole-school network. We are therefore looking for a network manager who will play a major role in the ongoing strategic management and development of all our IT systems. For an application pack please contact Miss Jill McKenna or email your request to jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk
To apply/more information:
Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Office Services and Facilities Manager

Ramsgate
Salary: £26,000
Closing Date: 14/07/08
Responsible for all office services including staff recruitment and management, purchasing, printing, also buildings maintainance, and security. You will have a good understanding of current employment and H&S legislation and will have proven management skills with an ability to excel under extreme pressure. Full CV and current salary to Rex Stickland, Churchill House School, Ramsgate, CT11 9EQ rex@churchillhouse.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Rex Stickland
Churchill House School of English
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 593630
Email rex@churchillhouse.co.uk

Pre 16 Learning Support

Canterbury
Salary: Starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 07/17
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Senior Learning Resources Officer

Sheerness
Salary: salary starting from £20,775 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Personnel Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S3
Tel: 01227 811282
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Student Support Finance Advisor

Canterbury
Salary: Starting from £14,535 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: LSF1
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Supply Lecturers in Amenity Horticulture

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/AH
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Supply Lecturers in Dental Nursing

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/DN
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Teach English at Home

Margate
Salary: TBA
Could you host and teach one or two students (junior or adult)? Must be suitably qualified/experienced. High standard of accommodation required. Teaching materials, full support and workshop provided. For further information call our Kent organiser.
To apply/more information:
International Language Homestays
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 722882
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Teacher of Art (Maternity Cover from November 2007)

Aylesford
Salary: Main Scale
Closing Date: 07 July 2008
Maternity Cover required from November 2008 Aylesford School – Sports College is an innovative forward looking Specialist Sports College. We have a strong community ethos where we put the learner at the heart of everything we do. At Aylesford School – Sports College we can offer you:-
• A brand new school.
• Outstanding new facilities in all areas. • NQT/ New staff induction package that is second to none. • A highly regarded CPD programme with personal professional pathways. • Your own laptop for the duration of your appointment.
• A buzzing and vibrant staff who are friendly and keen to help one another. • A forward looking curriculum with individualised pathways for students. We are looking for a committed professional who:- • Can motivate pupils through the curriculum. • Has the desire to make the difference. • Is focussed on developing their career further. • Is able to teach Art at key stage 3, 4 and 5. For an application pack please contact Miss Jill McKenna or email your request to jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk.
To apply/more information:
Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Teacher of Maths

Aylesford
Salary: Main Scale
Closing Date: 8th July 2008
Aylesford School – Sports College is an innovative forward looking Specialist Sports College. We have a strong community ethos where we put the learner at the heart of everything we do. At Aylesford School – Sports College we can offer you:- • A brand new school.
• Outstanding new facilities in all areas. • NQT/ New staff induction package that is second to none.
• A highly regarded CPD programme with personal professional pathways. • Your own laptop. • A buzzing and vibrant staff who are friendly and keen to help one another.
• A forward looking curriculum with individualised pathways for students. We are looking for a committed professional who:-
• Is able to start in September. • Can motivate pupils through the curriculum. • Has the desire to make the difference. • Is focussed on developing their career further.
• Is able to teach Maths at key stage 3 and 4. If you are keen to join our team at this exciting time in the development of our school please contact Miss Jill McKenna, on 01622-717341 ext 204 or email your request to jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk
Closing date is: Tuesday 8th July 2008 at 12.00 noon.
To apply/more information:
Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Teachers

Broadstairs
Salary: TBC
Closing Date: 12 noon, 4th July 2008
Creative, committed, enthusiastic and resilient TEACHERS do amazing things at BRADSTOW SCHOOL. If you would like to join them in January 2009, or as soon as possible, we are confident that:- It will probably be the hardest teaching job you will ever have. - It will certainly be the most satisfying. Bradstow is an exciting and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19, set in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children with autism and severe learning difficulties, many of whom have associated challenging behaviours. We have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management. Professional and personal qualities in this specialised and challenging field are very important. Experience, whilst helpful is not essential. Extensive and on-going training and support of all staff is at the core of the success of the school. All teachers are fully trained and supported in TEACCH, Prospect, PECS and other Augmentative Communication Systems as well as being provided with other specialist skills. You will also be supported and encouraged to further develop your skills and knowledge by undertaking further Degree and Diploma studies. OFSTED 2005 said, "The expertise and skill of staff in every aspect of the school's highly specialised work is exemplary". "Pupils make remarkable progress in the way they overcome communication and social difficulties and so become able to learn often for the first time" "Bradstow is a very good school, which helps transform pupils' and students' daily lives." If you would like to join our team, and help us to continue to transform the lives of these children and their families, give us a call. Be in no doubt, this is a challenging working environment for which you will need to be committed to the needs of the child and the school. In return we offer a highly rewarding and satisfying career, with quite a bit of fun thrown in as well! For SEN specialists, the second SEN point will be available. For an application form and information pack please call or email us. Please note that CV's will not be considered.
To apply/more information:
Bradstow School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine)
Email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

Teaching Assistant

Sittingbourne
Salary: Salary Scale: £13636 - £16819 plus benefits
We are looking for a Teaching Assistant to support looked after children in an EBD school setting of small classes. All students are not in mainstream school for a variety of reasons. Hours are 8.30 am to 4.30 pm term time only Experience of working with Special Educational Needs students in age ranges 7 - 16 is an advantage but all life experiences considered.
To apply/more information:
Sharon Cahill
ISP Childcare
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 428097
Email Sharon.cahill@ispchildcare.org.uk

Teaching Assistant

Thanet
Salary: (£13,959 - £15,826) Pro Rata
Closing Date: 11th July 2008
Required immediately to support pupils with Special Educational Needs. Applicants must have a genuine concern for young people and should be able to support pupils up to GCSE level. Experience might be an advantage. Flexibility, good communication skills and a sense of humour are essential. 30 hours per week term time only
To apply/more information:
Angela Bamford
Ursuline College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 834431
Email recruitment@ ursuline.org.uk

Teaching Assistants

Folkestone
Salary: Kent Scheme 3 (£13,619 - £15,440 pro rata per annum)
Closing Date: 11th July 2008
26.4 hours a week) Term time only To support teachers in meeting the needs of students with a range of learning difficulties and disabilities across the curriculum. We are a successful second phase Technology College, RM Pioneer School and recently named as one of the most improved specialist colleges in England and Wales. To help us accomplish this we are involved in research and development projects which are supported by good facilities and access to new technologies. This is a period of development for the school with a number of major initiatives underway. For more information and an application form please email or write to Miss Samantha Spratley, Pent Valley Technology College, Surrenden Road, Folkestone, Kent. CT19 4ED Previous applicants need not apply.
To apply/more information:
Samantha Spratley
Pent Vally Tech
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 277161
Email samantha.spratley@pent-valley.kent.sch.uk

Technician – Motorcycles

Dover
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 5pm on Wednesday 16th July 2008
To apply/more information:
South Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: S2144
Tel: 0845 207 8222
Email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk

Technician – Wood Occupations

Folkestone
Salary: TBC
Closing Date: 5pm Wednesday 2nd July
To apply/more information:
South Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: S2138
Tel: 0845 207 8222 (24 hour answer phone)
Email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk

Tutor - KCC Project Supervisory and Performance Management Courses

Folkestone
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 5pm on Wednesday 16th July 2008
To apply/more information:
South Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: T1334
Tel: 0845 207 8222
Email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk

Tutor – KCC Project Nursing qualification

Folkestone
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 5pm on Wednesday 16th July 2008
To apply/more information:
South Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: T1333
Tel: 0845 207 8222
Email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk

Tutor/Teachers Wanted

Kent
Salary: tba
Closing Date: 4th July 2008
ISP school and education provision are seeking qualifi ed tutors to work on a self employed basis, term time only. We have centres at Whitstable, Teynham and Rainham where tutors work 1:1 with students whose age range is from 7 to 16. All students are looked after children who are not in mainstream education for various reasons.
To apply/more information:
ISP Childcare
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 428097
Email Sharon.cahill@ispchildcare.org.uk

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JobsforKent.co.uk

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

Engineering Apprentices

Rochester
Salary: tba
Electrical, Mechanical and Instrumentation, Manufacturing and Production. Are you considering an Engineering Apprenticeship to enable you to Earn as You Learn? If you are aged between 16 – 25 and have or expect to gain 4 GCSE's at grade C or above or equivalent, including Maths, English and Science please send your CV to Kim Hollands.
To apply/more information:
Kim Hollands
IPS International Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email kimhollands@ips-international.com

Health & Safety, Security, Defense

Security Officers/Multi-drop drivers

Maidstone
Salary: £7.31 - £8.01 per hour
We are seeking Security Officers/Multi-drop drivers based at our depot in Aylesford. SIA Licensed officers welcome although full SIA training will be given. Must have a full clean driving licence. Min. 40 hours per week Monday - Sunday. Immediate start would be an advantage. If you are interested in a career in the security industry send your CV to job@contractsecurity.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Contract Security Services Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email job@contractsecurity.co.uk

HR, Recruitment

Employer Training Consultant

Kent
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Tuesday 8th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Department
South Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0845 207 8222
Email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk

Human Resources Officer

Sittingbourne
Salary: c.£21-23k
Closing Date: 1st July, 2008
Demelza Hospice Care for Children provides specialist care and support to children with life limiting conditions and their families. Based from our hospice in Sittingbourne, you will undertake some travel to other sites in Kent, East Sussex and south London, providing generalist support and advice to line managers and employees. With 150 multi disciplinary employees across 3 sites, plus a number of retail outlets, and 750 volunteers, you will be a competent generalist who enjoys the whole spectrum of HR practice and can be innovative to problem solving and thorough in delivery of a number of concurrent projects. Working within a small HR team you will be a strong team player and have some understanding of the charity/voluntary sector with an appreciation for the diversity of disciplines you will be supporting. With a minimum of a CIPD CPP and previous experience in a generalist role, you will enjoy a challenge and be self motivated in keeping your knowledge of all relevant issues up to date, demonstrating recent personal CPD. You will need a driving license, willingness to travel, and an ability to re-prioritize a changing workload. You will need previous experience of recruitment, all aspects of performance management, including appraisal systems, capability and disciplinary issues, contracts of employments, and all aspect of employee relations. Informal visits and chats warmly welcomed with Lavinia Jarrett, Head of Human Resources on 01795 845207. For an application pack contact Recruitment Line on 01795 845295. Visit our website on www.demelzahouse.org Enhanced Disclosure checks by the CRB will be undertaken for successful applicants. Demelza is an equal opportunities employer and operates a no smoking policy. Registered Charity No. 1039651. Rook Lane, Bobbing, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 8DZ
To apply/more information:
Lavinia Jarrett
Demelza House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 845295
Email info@demelza.org.uk

Recruitment Consultant

Ashford
Salary: Salary Dependent on Experience
Horticruitment UK Ltd is a specialist recruitment agency for the landscaping and horticultural industry throughout the UK. We currently have a vacancy for a recruitment consultant to join our team based at our new offices in Kenardington (5 miles south of Ashford). Candidates should come from either a recruitment or horticultural background, and have reasonable IT skills. Please apply by sending a copy of your current CV plus details of your salary expectations to: jobs@horticruitment.com
To apply/more information:
Horticruitment
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email jobs@horticruitment.com

Training and Development Officer

Chatham
Salary: Support Grade E: £19736 to £25441
Closing Date: 4th July 2008
We currently have an opportunity for a full time Training and Development Officer, who will have responsibility for developing, implementing and maintaining the College's training and development practices and procedures. This would include: • Designing and developing training and development programmes based on both the college's and the individual's needs. • Considering the costs of planned programmes and keeping within budgets. • Assessing the return on investment of any training or development programme. • Producing training materials for in-house courses. • Managing the delivery of training and development programmes. You will be able to work with minimum supervision and have strong analytical, communication and report writing skills. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please call or email the Personnel department quoting the appropriate job title. Interviews will be held on Friday 11 July 2008 Mid-Kent College is committed to Equal Opportunities and encourages applications from all sections of the community and welcomes applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine)
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Insurance, Banking, Finance

Finance Office Trainee

Faversham
Salary: £14,492 to £16,217 – (NJC Scale 12 -17, pay award pending)
Closing Date: 11 July 2008
You will be a member of a busy finance office team based at KCA's head office in Faversham. Training will be given but you will need to have good keyboard skills, be numerate and computer literate. Previous experience of working in a finance office and knowledge of Microsoft Office and Great Plains is desirable but not essential. You will need to be able to respond to people in a professional manner and have good communication skills. We are willing to support the right candidate in attaining a relevant professional qualification. For application forms contact: KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT. Interview date: 28 July 2008 Website www.kca.org.uk. KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.
To apply/more information:
KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 492
Tel: 01795 590635
Email recruitment@kca.org.uk

Business Development Manager

Kent
Salary: OTE c. £35,000 plus company car/benefits
We are seeking a driven relationship manager to support our continued expansion throughout Southern England. The successful candidate will ideally have good experience within the banking industry, be able to work on their own initiative but also as a team. Strongly developed sales/relationship management experience is essential together with excellent negotiation, communication and presentation skills. In return we offer a competitive remuneration package with OTE c. £35,000 plus company car/benefits. If you are looking for the challenge please email your CV and covering letter.
To apply/more information:
James
Contract Security Services Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email jamesh@contractsecurity.co.uk

Customer Services Manager

Dartford
Salary: £38,674-£41,208 pa, 37 hours per week, BUPA, free parking, sports facilities & flexi
Closing Date: 14th July 2008
Are you driven by a desire to improve customer service? We're looking for a 'customer champion' with strong change management experience, to enhance the delivery of services to our customers. Managing will only be part of the equation; your ability to put new ideas into action will be key. We're looking for significant experience in a customer contact centre or similar environment. You will have managed staff in such a role, including recruitment and selection, management through motivation, target setting, training, development and appraisal. Most importantly you will have devised and implemented new customer processes. You'll be completely at ease with support technology like CRM, telephony including IVR, scripts and workflow. This also requires absolute confidence with performance analysis, business process mapping, process development and project management. Flexibility towards working hours is essential, as occasionally you'll be asked to work outside normal office hours. Go to www.dartford.gov.uk or call for an application pack. Interview date: 30th July 2008. "The Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer"
To apply/more information:
Dartford Borough Council
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01322 343677
Email www.dartford.gov.uk

Operations Manager

Kent
Salary: 34,991 - £42,681 (SCP 43 - 52) (pay award pending)
Closing Date: 13th July 2008
Operating in the drug & alcohol and mental health sectors, KCA (UK) provides a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services for adults and young people. The organisation provides services from over twenty service bases across Kent, Surrey and the London boroughs, employs approximately 300 paid and unpaid staff and has an annual income exceeding £10.5 million. Young Persons' Services Drug and Alcohol Services - Kent & Medway - 37 hours per week • Essential Car User Allowance up to £1056 - Based in East Kent. The role offers a stimulating combination of tasks, including Service Manager support and project management covering quality, performance and operational issues. You will play a key part in ensuring contractual compliance and assist in service development work. You will be able to evidence: • Extensive knowledge of services for young people with substance misuse problems. • Staff performance management and service management experience • A sound grasp of business and strategic planning • An appropriate professional qualification. Should you wish to discuss this opportunity informally, please call Peter Gallagher or Claire Goulding on 01795 590635 or e-mail peter@kca.org.uk or claire@kca.org.uk For an application form and information pack, please contact: KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT. Tel 01795 590635, Fax 01795 539351, email recruitment@kca.org.uk, website www.kca.org.uk. KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.
To apply/more information:
Peter Gallagher
KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 491
Tel: 01795 590635
Email peter@kca.org.uk

Quality Improvement Manager

Medway
Salary: circa £40,000
Closing Date: Thursday 10 July 2008
We are seeking to appoint an innovative manager to develop and maintain our quality assurance procedures and improvement strategies. You will play an important role in building on our strong Self Assessment practice and developing our portfolio of quality improvement initiatives. Reporting to the Director of Standards and Quality Improvement, you will work closely with the Heads of Schools across the college. The ability to work effectively with external quality agencies is also an important aspect of the role. For an application form and job description please either email, refer to the website: www.midkent.ac.uk or telephone the Personnel Department. Interviews: Friday 18 July 2008
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine)
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Restaurant Manager

Canterbury
Salary: £23K-£26K
To apply/more information:
Goods Shed Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 459153
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Motor Trade, Driver

Bodyshop Staff Required

Sittingbourne
Salary: tba
For local accident repair business in all skills: Stripper/Fitter, Panel Beater, Prepper, Painters, Cleaner, Estimator, Driver & Receptionist
To apply/more information:
Paul Goddard/Gary Gregory
Ransoms Motors Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 842513
Email info@ransomsmotors.co.uk

Driver

Kent
Salary: Salary - £15k
Well established Medway based tool hire company is looking for a driver for a transit size pick up delivering small plant and equipment in the Medway, Kent and London areas.
To apply/more information:
Alpine Tool Hire
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 377927
Email alpinetoolhire@btconnect.com

Experienced Car Salesperson

Maidstone
Salary: £25-£35K OTE
Ideally you will have a main dealer background and be FSA approved. You will be used to performing to targets and have excellent customer communication skills. Maidstone Hyundai are a well established dealer with a pedigree of over 19 years which has been achieved by giving exceptional customer service. We pride ourselves in looking after our staff with excellent working conditions, an extremely competitive salary package and all the benefits one would expect with a long established dealer.
To apply/more information:
Maidstone Hyundai
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email markforshaw@hotmail.co.uk

LGV Class One Drivers

Maidstone
Salary: Good rates of pay
LGV Class One Drivers required for fixed term contract based in Mereworth beginning 1.7.08. Estimated contract duration is 4 months for grain haulage all day work. Good rates of pay with overtime available Mon - Fri. Minimum 2 years driving experience with digi card. Please call 01179 679031
To apply/more information:
Petrochemical Driver Services Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01179 679031
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Service Advisor

Gillingham
Salary: tba
We have a vacancy in our busy service reception for an experienced, reliable and focused Sales Advisor capable of maintaining the goodwill of our customers and building future growth for the business by fulfilling 100% of our customer's expectations. A sound knowledge of computerised point of sale programmes preferably Kerridge Autoline and 1 Link would be an advantage. The successful applicant will be of smart appearance, possess excellent time management skills, an enthusiastic attitude and an aptitude for selling. We offer a competitive salary according to experience and proven ability within a friendly environment. Applications in writing please to: The General Manager, Sherlodge Garage, 26 Hoath Lane, Wigmore, Gillingham, Kent ME8 0SW.
To apply/more information:
Sherlodge Garage
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email john.devine@sherlodgegarage.skoda.co.uk

Service Advisor

Canterbury
Salary: tba
Previous experience preferred but not essential. Pleasant, helpful personality is essential.
To apply/more information:
David Jackson
Baileys Nissan
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 766777
Email david.jackson@baileysnissan.co.uk

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Care Assistant

Sandwich
Salary: TBA
Upton House, near Sandwich, require a Care Assistant. Hours to be arranged NVQ 2 or equivalent desirable but not essential as training will be given. Please call on 01304 611312
To apply/more information:
Upton House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 611312
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Exciting Opportunities for Nurses

Kent
Salary: TBA
Company Health Ltd, a leading OH provider, is looking for screening nurses to carry out lifestyle checks for a public sector employer in Kent. No OH experience is necessary as full training will be given. This is a peripatetic role which would be suitable for RNs with an interest in health promotion. The role is available on either a F/T or P/T basis with very competitive rates. This is a great opportunity for RNs looking to get into occupational health as there is potential for progression for the right candidates. If you enjoy working in a close-knit, supportive team, please forward your CV to Ellie Nelson at enquiries-sth@companyhealth.co.uk.
To apply/more information:
Ellie Nelson
Company Health
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0870 4142 331
Email enquiries-sth@companyhealth.co.uk

New or Experienced Community Carers

Kent
Salary: TBA
Excellent rates of pay, free training, flexible working hours, free uniform.
To apply/more information:
All Seasons Care Services
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 265899 option 3
Email info@allseasons.org.uk

Residential Care Worker (Children's Home)

Margate
Salary: TBA
We are looking for people who want to make a difference and join our existing dedicated staff teams caring for disadvantaged children Experience preferred but not essential as full ongoing training will be given. Shift pattern including weekends and sleep-ins. Salary subject to experience. St Nicholas Lodge, 16 Hawley Square, Margate, Kent CT9 5JS.
To apply/more information:
Stephen Payne
St Nicholas Lodge UK Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 232321
Email Stephen@stnicholaslodge.com

Public Sector, Social Services

Bail & Remand Officer

Chatham
Salary: £18907 - £25320 per annum
Closing Date: 11 July 2008
An opportunity has arisen to recruit an enthusiastic, flexible Bail & Remand Officer to provide 'front line' YOT services to courts whilst working as part of a specialist court team. You will supervise clients subject to bail support packages. You will also provide support to young people on remand as well a range of other generic youth justice duties. Although the post does not require a professional qualification you'll have some experience of working with young people who present challenging behaviour and their parent(s)/carer(s). Any offer of employment for these posts will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure. For further information or an informal discussion please contact us. (37 hours per week). For an application pack or to apply vist www.medway.gov.uk or call 01634 333333 Mon to Fri 8am – 8pm, Sat 9am – 1pm or 01634 332843 24-hour answerphone.
To apply/more information:
Ashley Manning
Medway Council
Quoting Job Ref: CA0116S
Tel: 01634 336237
Email jobs@medway.gov.uk

Young Persons' Drug & Alcohol Worker (Early Intervention)

Canterbury
Salary: £21,412 - £25,320 SCP 26 – 31 (pay award pending)
Closing Date: 11th July 2008
Essential Car User Allowance up to £1,056 You will be involved in a range of community based services for young people who use/misuse drugs, or are at risk of doing so. This will include early intervention and prevention initiatives with targeted groups of young people through giving advice and information, raising awareness and educating them about the risks of using drugs. Much of this will be carried out though group work and presentations, with some one to one work. It will include working closely with other agencies and professionals. You need to have good substance misuse knowledge, excellent communication and engagement skills, casework skills, and the ability to be creative and innovative. Proven experience of working effectively with young drug and alcohol users is a prerequisite. For application forms and further information, contact: KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT. Website www.kca.org.uk.
To apply/more information:
KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 493
Tel: 01795 590635
Email recruitment@kca.org.uk

Young Persons' Drug & Alcohol Worker (Early Intervention/Tier 2)

Gravesend
Salary: £21,412 - £25,320 SCP 26 – 31 (pay award pending)
Closing Date: Monday 14th July 2008 at 5.00 pm
GRAVESEND, DARTFORD & GRAVESHAM Essential Car User Allowance up to £1,056 You will be involved in a range of community based services for young people who use/misuse drugs, or are at risk of doing so. This will include early intervention and prevention initiatives with targeted groups of young people through giving advice and information, raising awareness and educating them about the risks of using drugs. Much of this will be carried out though group work and presentations, with some one to one work. It will include working closely with other agencies and professionals. You need to have good substance misuse knowledge, excellent communication and engagement skills, casework skills, and the ability to be creative and innovative. Proven experience of working effectively with young drug and alcohol users is a prerequisite. Previous applicants need not apply. For application forms and further information, contact: KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT. www.kca.org.uk. KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.
To apply/more information:
KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 485
Tel: 01795 590635
Email recruitment@kca.org.uk

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

Hoffman Presser/ General Machine Presser

LongField
Salary: tba
Required for busy dry cleaning shop Based in Longfield
To apply/more information:
Mark Newell
Capricorn Cleaners
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 708021
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Sales Person

Canterbury
Salary: tba
The Commercial Department at Kent County Cricket Club has a vacancy for a full time sales person who has previous experience of telesales, IT skills and a knowledge of Microsoft office. Based at The St Lawrence Ground in Canterbury, the successful applicant will be expected to sell Kent CCC advertising, cricket related hospitality, and conferencing and non cricket related functions at the Ground. If you are interested please write – enclosing a current CV to: Jon Fordham – Commercial & Operations Director at Kent County Cricket Club, The St Lawrence Ground, Old Dover Road, Canterbury CT1 3NZ or email.
To apply/more information:
Jon Fordham
Kent County Cricket Club
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email jon.fordham.kent@ecb.co.uk

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01303 817040

PUBLIC NOTICES

In the Medway County Court
No AA9 of 2008
BJF LASERS LIMITED
(Company Number 05020150)

Notice is hereby given by David Elliott of Moore Stephens LLP 1st Floor, Victory House, Quayside, Chatham Maritime, Kent, ME4 4QU that a meeting of creditors of BJF Lasers Limited (In Administration) Victory House, Quayside, Chatham Maritime, Kent, ME4 4QU is to be held at 1st Floor, Victory House, Quayside, Chatham Maritime, Kent, ME4 4QU on Wednesday 9 July 2008 at 11.00 am.

The Meeting is an initial Creditors' Meeting under paragraph 49 of Schedule B1 to the Insolvency Act 1986.

Proxy forms should be completed and returned to me by the date of the Meeting if you cannot attend and wish to be represented. In order to be entitled to vote under Rule 2.38 at the Meeting you must give to me, not later than 12.00 noon on the business day before the day fixed for the Meeting, details in writing of your claim.

Dated: 24 June 2008
David Elliott, Administrator

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

In the Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL
(OFF-STREET PARKING PLACES) (AMENDMENT No 1) ORDER 2008

Notice is hereby given that Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council made an Order on **26th June 2008,** under Sections 32 and 35 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, having obtained the consent of Kent County Council in accordance with Section 39(3) of the Act, and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 of the Act.

The effect of the Order will be to amend the Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council (Off-street Parking Places) Order 2008, The Schedule PART 1, Table of Parking Places, by adding new parking places to the Order with associated tariffs as follows.

Names of Parking Places	Maximum period for which vehicles may wait & Charging period	Scale of charges
Group 12 Haysden Country Park - Main car park	Maximum stay: Opening times of the Country Park	**Pay and display charges** Up to 4 hour £0.60 Over 4 hours £2.40 **Season tickets** 12 Months £25.00
Group 13 Haysden Country Park - Haysden Water the two car parks - Audley Rise car park	Maximum stay: Opening times of the Country Park	**Season tickets** 12 Months £25.00

A copy of the Order together with a map, a copy of the Order that will be amended by the Order and a Statement of the Council's Reasons for making the Order, may be inspected during normal office hours at the offices of Tonbridge and Malling Council Offices, Kings Hill, West Malling or Tonbridge Castle until the 11th August 2008.

Anyone wishing to question the validity of the Order, or of any of its provisions on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the Act of 1984, as amended, or that any requirement of the Act of 1984, or any instrument made thereunder has not been complied with may, within six weeks from the date of the Order, make application for that purpose to the High Court. The Order will come into effect on **Monday, 30th June 2008.**

If you have any questions concerning the proposed Order or require further information please contact 01732 876160 during normal office hours.

Steve Humphrey
Director of Planning Transport & Leisure Services

Highways - Borough of Ashford

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS IN HOTHFIELD) (ROAD CLOSURE)TEMPORARY ORDER 2008

NOTICE is hereby given that to allow highway works to take place the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by traffic on the routes described in column 1 of the Schedule hereto on or after 24th July 2008 for an estimated period of three days or for a period not exceeding 18 months.

The alternative for each route described in column 1 of the Schedule hereto is described in column 2 of that Schedule.

THE SCHEDULE

Waterfall Road, Hothfield. From Its junction with Godinton Lane to Its junction with Coach Drive.	Godinton Lane, A20 Maidstone Road, Station Road , School Road The Street and Park Drive.
West Street, Hothfield. From Its junction with The Street to Its junction with Ram Lane.	Little Chart Road, Swan Lane, Surrenden Road, Pluckley Road, Bethersden Road and The Street.
The Street, Hothfield. From Its junction with The Street to Its junction with Church Lane.	West Street, Little Chart Road, Swan Lane, Surrenden Road, Pluckley Road and Bethersden Road.

Advance road works information boards will be placed prior to works commencing on site, giving details as to when works are scheduled to commence and expected duration. Each closure is not expected to last know more that one day, and will be carried out over three phases.

Order will only be effective when the appropriate signs are displayed.

Highways - Borough of Canterbury

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CROWS CAMP ROAD, BISHOPBOURNE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Crows Camp Road, Bishopbourne. This Order will commence on Monday 14th July for a period of 5 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for eastbound traffic via The Street, Bridge Hill, Pett Bottom Road & Woodgate and westbound visa versa.

May Gurney Ltd apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to inspect a disused railway bridge. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Dave Fisher on 07919520408.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(HATCH LANE, LEVEL CROSSING, CHARTHAM) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Hatch Lane, Level Crossing, Chartham, from its junction with Ashford Road to its junction with New Town Street.

On or after Tuesday 1 July 2008 for an estimated period of 11 Weeks for and will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected, and will remain valid for a maximum period of eighteen months or until the works are completed, whichever is the sooner.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Ashford Road, Howfield Lane and Town Lane.

Highways - Borough of Dartford

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
ARNOLDS LANE, SUTTON AT HONE (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Arnold Lane, Sutton at Hone between its junctions with B258 Top Dartford Road and A225 Main Road .

The Order will become effective on 14th July 2008, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last for two days and commence on 15th July 2008. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: A225 Main Road, Ship Lane, Wood Street (Swanley), Swanley Village Road, Highlands Hill, B258 Main Road, B258 Top Dartford Road (Swanley & Hextable)

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate the renewal of an overhead cable and tree cutting works on behalf of BT.

Please Note: Access will be maintained for all residents, businesses and their visitors as much as possible during the works.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(SOUTHFLEET ROAD, SWANSCOMBE & GREENHITHE) (SPEED LIMITS) ORDER 2008 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council, under Sections 82 and 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, has made an Order on 24th June 2008 the effect of which will be that:-

a) No person shall drive any motor vehicle at a speed exceeding 40 miles per hour in Southfleet Road, Swanscombe & Greenhithe, between a point 295 metres south of its junction with Swanscombe Street and a point 870 metres south of that junction.

b) No person shall drive any motor vehicle at a speed exceeding 50 miles per hour in Southfleet Road, Swanscombe & Greenhithe, between a point 870 metres south of its junction with Swanscombe Street and a point 1255 metres south of that junction, which can also be defined as the southern extremity of Southfleet Road that is maintainable at public expense by Kent County Council, and including the roundabout located 907 metres south of the junction with Swanscombe Street.

A copy of the Order which comes into operation on 1st July 2008, an explanatory statement, a map showing the length of affected road concerned and other relevant documents may be inspected during normal office hours at Joynes House, New Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 0AT or Civic Centre, Home Gardens, Dartford, Kent, DA1 1DR.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court, within 6 weeks of the date of the publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Order or of any provision contained in it on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made thereunder, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Order.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(SOUTHFLEET ROAD, SWANSCOMBE & GREENHITHE) (WEIGHT RESTRICTION) ORDER 2008 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council, under Sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, has made an Order on 24th June 2008 the effect of which will be that:-

Save as provided in the Order, no person shall be permitted to cause any goods vehicle, the maximum permissible laden weight of which exceeds 7.5 tonnes, to proceed in Southfleet Road, Swanscombe & Greenhithe, between its junction with Swanscombe Street and Stanhope Road and a point 870 metres south of that junction.

A copy of the Order which comes into operation 1st July 2008, an explanatory statement, a map showing the length of affected road concerned and other relevant documents may be inspected during normal office hours at Joynes House, New Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 0AT or Civic Centre, Home Gardens, Dartford, Kent, DA1 1DR.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court, within 6 weeks of the date of the publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Order or of any provision contained in it on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made thereunder, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Order.

Highways - Borough of Dartford and District of Sevenoaks

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
DARTFORD HALF MARATHON (VARIOUS ROADS) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst an event is held on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on various roads as noted in Schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 14th July 2008, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the event is planned to take place on Sunday 20th July between the hours of 08:00 and 11:00 or until Kent Police feel it is safe to reopen the roads. These closures and will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

Schedule 1.

Roman Villa Road – Between Darenth Hill and Holmesdale Hill

Shrubbery Road, South Darenth – Between Holmesdale Hill and New Road

Rabbits Road, Nr Longfield – Between New Road and Canada Farm Road

Canada Farm Road, Nr Longfield – Between Rabbits Road and Green Street Green Road

The alternative route for the routes described above will be via: Main Road, Sutton at Hone, Station Road, Horton Road, Holmesdale Road, Holmesdale Hill, Gills Road and Green Street Green Road.

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate the Dartford Half Marathon taking place.

Highways - District of Dover

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS DOVER) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Demolition of bus depot and multi storey car park works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Various Roads Dover from as desribed in column 1 of schedule to this order on or after 30 June 2008 for an estimated period of 20 Weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for each road described in column 1 of the schedule to this order is described in column 3 of that schedule.

Specified Road	length of road affected	alternative routes	Programmed date
Phase 1			
Dolphin Lane Dover	Whole length	St James Lane and St James Street.	30 June for 20 Weeks In Two Phases
St James Lane	Whole Length	The specific provisions of the Traffic Order that makes St James Lane, one way in a northerly direction shall be suspended for the duration of the works.	
St James Street	Whole Length	The specific provisions of the Traffic Order that makes St James Street, one way in a Easterly direction shall be suspended for the duration of the works.	
Phase 2			
St James Street	Whole length	Townwall Street, Woolcomber Street, Castle Street and Dolphin Passage.	30 June for 20 Weeks In Two Phases

Highways - Borough of Gravesham

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(LOWER HIGHAM ROAD, GRAVESEND and LOWER ROAD, SHORNE) (50MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2008 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council, under Section 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, has made an Order on 24th June 2008 the effect of which will be that:-

No person shall drive any motor vehicle at a speed exceeding 50 miles per hour in Lower Higham Road, Gravesend and Lower Road, Shorne between a point on Lower Higham Road 58 metres east of its junction with Castle Lane, to a point on Lower Road 228 metres west of its junction with Taylors Lane, Higham.

A copy of the Order which comes into operation on 1st July 2008, an explanatory statement, a map showing the length of affected road concerned and other relevant documents may be inspected during normal office hours at Joynes House, New Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 0AT or Gravesham Borough Council, Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 1AU.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court, within 6 weeks of the date of the publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Order or of any provision contained in it on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made thereunder, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Order.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(PEACOCK STREET & WELLINGTON STREET, GRAVESEND) (ONE WAY) ORDER 2008 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council, in exercise of its powers under Sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984 and all other enabling powers, has made an Order the effect of which has reversed the existing one way movements on parts of Peacock Street and Wellington Street, Gravesend.

A copy of the Order which comes into operation on Monday 7th July 2008, an explanatory statement and a map showing the extent of the scheme can be inspected during normal working hours at the West Kent Divisional Office, Joynes House, New Road, Gravesend Kent, DA11 0AT and at Gravesham Borough Council Offices, Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 1AU.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made there under, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Order.

Highways - Borough of Maidstone

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS IN THE BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC AND WAITING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by traffic on the routes described in Column 1 of Schedule 1 hereto.

The alternative route for each route described in Column 1 of Schedule 1 hereto is described in Column 2 of that Schedule.

The Order will come into operation on Monday 14th. July 2008 and will be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until the works have been completed, whichever is sooner. The works are scheduled to commence on or after Monday 14th. July 2008 and are programmed for completion within an estimated period of twenty six weeks weeks.

SCHEDULE 1

The affected routes (Column 1)	The alternative routes (Column 2)
B2012 Well Road and Holland Road, Maidstone from Boxley Road to Hedley Street. EASTBOUND ONLY. When required 24 hours per day Sunday to Saturday.	Eastbound traffic via C97 Boxley Road, C349 Penenden Heath Road, A249 Sittingbourne Road and B2012 Holland Road. Westbound traffic unaffected.
High Level Footbridge, Maidstone (River crossing adjacent to Maidstone East Station) from Station Road to Buckland Hill. When required 24 hours per day Sunday to Saturday.	Westbound (pedestrian only) traffic via Station Road, St. Faiths Street, Fairmeadow, St. Peters Bridge and St. Peters Street. Eastbound (pedestrian only) traffic vice versa.
A229 Loose Road, Maidstone at the junction with A274 Sutton Road. Right turning (east or south-east bound) traffic into U840 Cranborne Avenue or A274 Sutton Road only. When required 24 hours per day Monday to Sunday	East or south-east bound traffic via A229 Loose Road/Sheals Crescent/Hayle Road/College Road/Palace Avenue/ Lower Stone Street/Upper Stone Street and Loose Road

Advance road works information boards will be placed prior to works commencing on site, giving details as to when the works are scheduled to commence and expected duration.

Order will only be effective when appropriate signs are displayed.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS IN THE BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC AND WAITING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by traffic on the routes described in Column 1 of Schedule 1 hereto.

The alternative route for each route described in Column 1 of Schedule 1 hereto is described in Column 2 of that Schedule.

The Order will come into operation on Monday 14th. July 2008 and will be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until the works have been completed, whichever is sooner. The works are scheduled to commence on Monday 14th. July 2008 and are programmed for completion within an estimated period of twenty six weeks.

For further information, please contact Geoff Mee, Director for Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

SCHEDULE 1

The affected routes (Column 1)	The alternative routes (Column 2)
B2162 Hampstead Lane, Yalding from Twyford Bridge to Caravan Park. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday	North-west bound traffic via B2162 Hampstead Lane, B2015 Maidstone Road/Bow Road, A26 Tonbridge Road, B2163 Teston Lane, B2010 Lower Road/ Smiths Hill/Yalding Hill/Yalding High Street, B2162 Lees Road/Hampstead Lane. South-west bound traffic vice versa.
B2162 Hampstead Lane, Nettlestead from B2015 Maidstone Road to Yalding Station. When required up to twenty four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	Eastbound traffic via B2015 Maidstone Road/Bow Road, A26 Tonbridge Road, B2163 Teston Lane, B2010 Lower Road/ Smiths Hill/Yalding Hill/Yalding High Street, B2162 Lees Road/Hampstead Lane. Westbound traffic vice versa.
B2079 Maidstone Road, Marden from A229 Staplehurst Road to Underlyn Lane. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	South-west bound traffic via A229 Staplehurst Road/Maidstone Road/ Station Road, C68 Marden Road/ Battle Lane/Howland Road, B2079 High Street/Church Green, C175 Pattenden Lane, C69 Underlyn Lane. North-east bound traffic vice versa.
C68 Four Oaks Road/Summerhill/Moat Road, Headcorn from A274 Mill Bank to Plumtree Road. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	East bound traffic via C101 Plumtree Road, A274 Maidstone Road/Mill Bank. Westbound traffic vice versa.
U800 St.Lukes Avenue, Maidstone (cul de sac section)	No alternative route

Advance road works information boards will be placed prior to works commencing on site giving details as to when works are scheduled and expected duration.

Order will only be effective when the appropriate signs are displayed.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS IN THE BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC AND WAITING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by traffic on the routes described in Column 1 of Schedule 1 hereto.

The alternative route for each route described in Column 1 of Schedule 1 hereto is described in Column 2 of that Schedule.

The Order will come into operation on Monday 14th. July 2008 and will be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until the works have been completed, whichever is sooner. The works are scheduled to commence on Monday 14th. July 2008 and are programmed for completion within an estimated period of twenty six weeks.

SCHEDULE 1

The affected routes (Column 1)	The alternative routes (Column 2)
B2246 Fountain Lane, Maidstone from A26 Tonbridge Road to Heath Road. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday	Northbound traffic via A26 Tonbridge Road, A20 Terrace Road/London Road, B2246 Hermitage Lane. Southbound traffic vice versa.
B2163 Teston Lane, Teston from A26 Tonbridge Road to B2010 Lower Road (Works north of River Medway bridge only). When required up to twenty four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	South-east bound traffic via A26 Tonbridge Road, B2015 Bow Road/ Maidstone Road, B2162 Hampstead Lane/Lees Road, B2010 Yalding High Street, Yalding Hill, Smiths Hill/ Lower Road. North-west bound traffic vice versa.
B2163 Heath Road, Coxheath from A229 Linton Road to Park Way. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	East bound traffic via C65 Dean Street, B2010 Dean Street/Farleigh Hill/Tovil Hill/College Road, A229 College Road/ Palace Avenue/Lower Stone Street/ Upper Stone Street/Loose Road/Linton Road. West bound traffic vice versa.
B2010 Lower Road, East Farleigh from B2010 Dean Street to Vicarage Lane (Works east of Priory Close only). When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	East bound traffic via B2010 Lower Road, B2163 Ewell Lane/Heath Road, C65 Dean Street. Westbound traffic vice versa.
B2163 Leeds Road, Langley from A274 Maidstone Road to Horseshoes Lane. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	North-east bound traffic via A274 Sutton Road, C392 Willington Street, A20 Ashford Road, B2163 Penfold Hill/ Lower Street/Upper Street.

Advance road works information boards will be placed prior to works commencing on site giving details as to when works are scheduled and expected duration.

Order will only be effective when the appropriate signs are displayed.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS IN THE BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC AND WAITING TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by traffic on the routes described in Column 1 of Schedule 1 hereto.

The alternative route for each route described in Column 1 of Schedule 1 hereto is described in Column 2 of that Schedule.

The Order will come into operation on Monday 14th. July 2008 and will be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until the works have been completed, whichever is sooner. The works are scheduled to commence on Monday 14th. July 2008 and are programmed for completion within an estimated period of twenty six weeks.

SCHEDULE 1

The affected routes (Column 1)	The alternative routes (Column 2)
U624 Forge Lane, Yalding from B2162 Benover Road to Claygate Road. When required up to twenty four hours per day Monday to Sunday	Northbound traffic via Claygate Road and B2162 Benover Road. Southbound traffic vice versa.
U581 Barn Hill, Hunton from Foremans Barn Road to Lughorse Lane. When required up to twenty four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	Southbound traffic via Foremans Barn Road, Hunton Hill and Lughorse Lane. Northbound traffic vice versa.
U593 North Folly Road, Hunton from Foremans Barn Road to B2163 Heath Road. When required up to twenty four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	Southbound traffic via B2163 Heath Road, Upper Hunton Hill, Hunton Hill and West Street. Northbound traffic vice versa.

Advance road works information boards will be placed prior to works commencing on site giving details as to when works are scheduled and expected duration.

Order will only be effective when the appropriate signs are displayed.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(FAVERSHAM ROAD, LENHAM) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) (SUSPENSION OF ONE WAY ORDER) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by traffic on Faversham Road, Lenham opposite Hill Crescent, on or after Sunday 6th July 2008 when required for 1 day or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above for southbound traffic is via Faversham Road, Lone Barn Road, Payden Street, Hubbards Hill and the A20 and for northbound visa versa.

BT apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to clean a joint box and provide service, should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Tracey Zeal at A Plant Lux Traffic Management on 01666 822000.

Highways - District of Sevenoaks

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
BURLINGS LANE, KNOCKHOLT (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Burlings Lane, Knockholt between its junctions with Shellys Lane and Main Road.

The Order will become effective on 14th July 2008, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last 2 days in the following 2 weeks. These closures and will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Shellys Lane and Main Road.

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate the removal of a dangerous tree.

Highways - Borough of Swale

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(SWALE WAY, SITTINGBOURNE) (40 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2008 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council has made an Order under Section 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which has imposed a 40 per hour speed limit on Swale Way, Sittingbourne between Castle Road and Great East Hall.

A copy of the Order which comes into operation on Monday 7th July 2008, an explanatory statement and a map showing the details of the scheme can be inspected during normal working hours at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone Kent, ME14 1XQ and at Swale Borough Council Offices, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made there under, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Order.

Highways - District of Thanet

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(RUMFIELDS ROAD, BROADSTAIRS) (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because construction works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting Waiting at any time on Rumfields Road, Broadstairs from the boundary line between Bromstone School and Appleton Lodge for a distance of 50 metres in a north westerly direction, and from the boundary line between numbers 2 and 4 Rumfields Road for a distance of 115m in a north westerly direction on or after 30 June 2008 for an estimated period of 18 months or until such works are complete.

Highways - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
WARREN ROAD, BLUEBELL HILL (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Warren Road, Bluebell Hill between its junctions with Mill Lane and Lower Warren Road.

The Order will become effective on 30th June 2008, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last 5 days. These closures and will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative routes for the route described above will be via:

From Lord Leas Gyratory – A229 Bluebell Hill, Slip Off to Burham, Wouldham and Eccles, Lower Warren Road

From Chatham Road Junction with Rochester Road – Chatham Road, A229 Bluebell Hill, Slip Road to Bluebell Hill Village, Mill Lane.

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate the installation of a new gas supply to number 28.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE STREAM & BRADBOURNE LANE, DITTON (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on The Stream and Bradbourne Lane, Ditton between its junctions with New Road and St Peters Road.

The Order will become effective on 30th June 2008, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative routes for the route described above will be via: New Road and St Peters Road

The purpose of the Order is to protect vehicles from being damaged when driving through the ford..

Highways - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling and District of Sevenoaks

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
VARIOUS ROADS, WROTHAM, STANSTED AND WEST KINGSDOWN (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst an event is held on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on various roads as noted below (i) and (ii). This Order will also restrict traffic to not exceeding a speed limit of 30m.p.h. on the roads as noted below (iii) and (iv).

(i) Closure of Stansted Lane between the London Golf Course entrance and its junction with South Ash Lane – One Way Traffic from South Ash Lane towards London Golf Club.

(ii) Closure of South Ash Lane from its junction with Stansted Lane to A20 London Road, Wrotham/West Kingsdown – One Way Traffic from A20 London Road towards Stansted Lane.

(iii) A20 London Road, West Kingsdown between its junction with South Ash Lane and Crowhurst Lane, West Kingsdown.

(iv) Ash Lane/South Ash Lane, Stansted betweenA20 London Road, Wrotham and Pease Hill, Ash.

The Order will become effective on 30th June 2008, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the event is planned to take place between 2nd and 6th July 2008 between the hours of 06:30 and 20:30. These closures and speed restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

There are no alternative routes for the routes described above.

The purpose of the Order is to ensure that traffic remain moving whilst the event is being held

Highways - Borough of Tunbridge Wells

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(SAND LANE, FRITTENDEN) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Sand Lane, Frittenden 50m either side of Beale Farmhouse on or after Monday 30th June 2008 for an estimated period of up to 4 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for southbound traffic via Biddenden Road, The Street, Cranbrook Road, Digdog Lane and for northbound traffic vice versa.

Ringway Infrastructure Services apologise for any inconvenience caused, which are necessary for drainage works. Should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Brian Williams on 07715 536638.

Highways - Boroughs of Tunbridge Wells & Maidstone

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(WHETSTED ROAD, CAPEL/YALDING) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Whetsted Road from the Hop Farm roundabout to Badsell Road roundabout on or after Saturday 5th July and Sunday 6th July 2008 between 22.00hrs and 03.00hrs.

The alternative route for the route described above is for southbound traffic via B2160 Maidstone Road, B2017 Badsell Road and for northbound traffic vice versa.

The AA Signs apologise for any inconvenience caused, which is necessary to allow traffic to safely exit the Hop Farm Country Park after an event. Should you require any further information regarding this, the contact is Leigh Riggs on 01279 414906.

For further information, please contact Geoff Mee, Director for Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

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Ignore CC confusion – catch those fine curves

By **STEVE LOADER**

CONFUSION over the 'CC' label for Volkswagen's latest model matters little once prospective buyers cast an eye over its curves.

CC, of course, suggests 'coupé convertible' – the coolest label on the market during hot weather.

In the case of the new Passat CC coupé due in July, the letters actually stand for 'concept coupé' and the nearest it comes to an open-air experience is to boast a panoramic roof.

But what a concept: a sleek and slippery executive class four-door/four-seat coupé for just £21,000 and less than half that of Mercedes-Benz's trend-setting CLS model that may have suggested the VW design.

It is such a keenly priced eye-catcher that Mercedes chiefs will be worried less about what the Passat CC could do to CLS sales and more about potential harm to C-Class saloon volumes.

The Audi A4 and BMW 3-Series could also lose sales to the lithe new Passat spin-off; the Passat saloon itself might be off the pace against the C-Class, A4 and 3-Series, but the CC could be a different proposition.

The car is loaded with safety features and the luxurious four-seat interior is enhanced by the large glass roof – not offered on the Mercedes CLS or, indeed, any other 'businessman's express'.

VW promises refinement and a rewarding drive and three petrol and two diesel engines are offered, with a 297bhp 3.6-litre V6 petrol engine and all-wheel drive as the powertrain for the £31,120 Passat CC flagship – this combination delivers 0-62 mph in 5.6 seconds.

Two trim levels are available, with standard kit including 17-inch alloys, dual-zone climate control, touch-screen sound system with six-disc autochanger, six-way electrically adjustable sports seats, a multi-function leather steering wheel, six airbags and electronic stability control.

Top spec GT trim includes 18-inch alloys and, for the first time on a VW, adaptive chassis control (ACC) allowing three settings to firm up or soften the ride and change the steering characteristics.

Search online for your new car today
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INSIDE

Eco champ is all set for UK Page 62

Quentin at Kent car show Page 63

VW's new 'green' machine Pages 66-67

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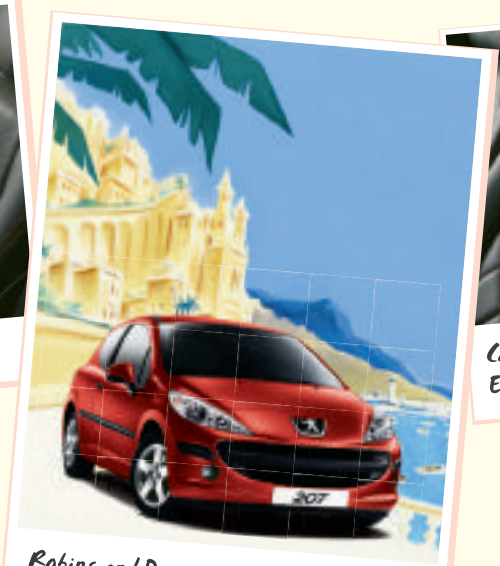
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†Typical **7.9% APR** applies to 207 models. Prices may vary at each dealer. Offers subject to status. Over 18s only. A guarantee may be required. Written quotations available on request from Peugeot Financial Services, Quadrant House, Princess Way, Redhill RH1 1QA. *Prices quoted are on the road and include delivery to dealership, number plates, 12 months' Government Vehicle Excise Duty, £55 Government First Registration Fee and apply to the 207 Monaco 1.4 8v 3dr with air conditioning. Different offers available in Northern Ireland and Channel Islands – ask your local Peugeot Dealer for details. ^This payment does not have to be made if you choose to hand your car back to Peugeot. Offers apply to vehicles ordered and registered from 1st June 2008 until such point as they may be withdrawn by Peugeot Motor Company PLC at its discretion. Offers subject to availability. Prices, offers and information correct at time of going to press. Alloy wheels optional extra. Models shown are for illustrative purposes only.

FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

Smart's tiny CO2 champ set for UK

SMART'S super-green fortwo cdi, is coming to Britain.

The diesel version of the two-seat city icon has the lowest CO2 emissions of any current production car worldwide; at just 88g/km it more than qualifies for exemption from road tax and the congestion charge.

Irrespective of the current imbalance between diesel and petrol prices, owners should also be happy with an average fuel consumption of about 85mpg and a range of 670 miles between top-ups – equivalent to a journey from Dover to Prague. The heart of this economy is the 45bhp Mercedes-Benz-developed three-cylinder diesel unit.

The car is due here early next year in both coupé and cabrio versions – prices to be confirmed.

The original smart was too ahead of its time, but the second generation car launched in 2007 is vastly improved and perfect for the fast-changing motoring environment we now live in – the diesel is even better suited.

Getting to know Volvo's baby

FORD's new Kuga 4x4 is just out and now we know more about its half-brother – the new Volvo XC60.

Both cars have been developed within the Ford empire by blending chassis expertise honed on the excellent Ford Focus with Volvo's acknowledged 4x4 nous.

Having driven the impressive Kuga, we can expect the Volvo to be a great on-road drive as well as a decent performer off-road, even though it is billed more as an SUV (sports utility vehicle) than out and out off-roader.

Prices for the XC60 start at £24,750 for the 2.4D S and it will be available for customer test drives this October, with deliveries from November.

Avant aims to be lifestyle spaceship

AFTER fuelling demand for so-called 'lifestyle estates', Audi has much riding on the newly-launched A4 Avant.

Estates were once seen as utilitarian, but the A4's Audi 80 Avant predecessor and rival BMW 3-Series Touring made it cool to be seen in one even if they actually offered little extra luggage space over their saloon sisters.

However, the new Avant (from £21,800) boasts the most luggage space in its class: 490 litres with rear seats in place and 1,430 litres with them folded.

It beats the out-going model's 442 and 1,184 respectively though falling short of the 554 and 1,685 of the latest Mondeo – a car that Ford insists deserves consideration in the same class as the Audi.

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Hot cars at high-profile Motorshow@Bluewater

SHOPPERS attending next week's Motorshow@Bluewater (July 3-6) will be among the first in the country to see two of the hottest new car models in the UK.

The event will also be opened at noon on Thursday by one of TV's leading car presenters and motor market tipsters Quentin Willson (pictured).

The new vehicles are the silky VW Passat CC four-door coupé (see front page story) and Renault's first-ever SUV (sports utility vehicle) or 4x4, the Koleus (also pictured). Both are part of an array of 17 motor brands which will be on display outside Marks & Spencer at the second annual show staged by Bluewater.

Renault's Koleus, described by the French marque as a 'crossover' vehicle, appears alongside a striking Giallo special edition of the Mégane Coupé-Cabriolet.

Renault regional general manager Andy Fisher said: "We're delighted to offer the Koleos for the first time. It's sure to appeal to active families and individuals who like to get away at weekends and need plenty of space for transporting sports or camping equipment.

"Bluewater shoppers can also test drive the exclusive Giallo – get there before the end of the summer though, as they're in limited supply."

The appearance of the Koleus at Motorshow@Bluewater is a major coup for the show – it is the car's first UK public appearance ahead of the British International Motor Show in London later in July.

The Koleos is designed to deliver the same standard of comfort and practicality found in a hatchback with decent off-road ability.

It features hill descent control and hill start assist functions to deliver improved off-road ability in comparison with some so-called 'soft-roaders' on the market.

Two 2.0-litre diesel engine options are offered – 150bhp or 175bhp – and a front-wheel drive version is available for extra economy.

Other show attractions include Whitmore Chevrolet's World Touring Car Championship simulator challenge – with four tickets at stake for the WTCC heats at Kent's Brands Hatch race circuit. The four-day show also features a specialist go-karting area for all ages to race on, remote control cars and other entertainment.

Bluewater stores, including John Lewis, House of Fraser, USC and Faith, are running exclusive offers to tie-in with the show and other car brands represented are: Mitsubishi, BMW, Suzuki, Saab, Ssang Yong, VW, Peugeot, Vauxhall, Mercedes-Benz, Hyundai, Kia, Seat, Ford, Toyota and Nissan.

A moving moment for Invicta

INVICTA Motors in Canterbury has moved and re-developed its used car outlet (pictured) after 25 years alongside the Lakeside service station in the city's Sturry Road.

The operation has now been consolidated at the main Invicta Ford dealership nearby at 59/61 Sturry Road, where it joins new car sales and all other departments.

Invicta used car sales chief John Boorman told us: "As Esso planned to redevelop the adjacent (Lakeside) petrol forecourt, we seized the opportunity to move the used car business and put it together with our new car sales, service and parts departments.

"The benefit to our customers of course, is that everything would be in one place for them and that we could provide a superior choice and service."

Joining in the big move was Invicta's in-house in-car entertainment team at Canterbury Car Radio, also previously at Lakeside.

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OTR	£15,505
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36 monthly payments of	£249*
OTR	£23,695
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Total amount payable by customer††	£23,713

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FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES FOR THE DODGE RANGE IN MPG: URBAN 16.7-35.8, EXTRA URBAN 31.7-58.9, COMBINED 24.1-47.1. CO2 EMISSIONS IN G/KM 159-283.
Models shown: Dodge Nitro 2.8 CRD SXT Auto £23,695 OTR, featuring optional metallic paint at an additional £400; Dodge Caliber 2.0 SXT Auto £15,505 OTR, featuring optional metallic paint at an additional £400. OTR prices include road fund licence (£145-£400) and first registration fee (£55). Dodge is a registered trademark of Chrysler LLC. *Typical 4.9% APR finance offer valid at participating dealers and applies to 2007 and 2008 model year vehicles for Nitro, Avenger and Caliber and on selected models purchased and registered between 1st April and 30th June 2008. All finance examples shown are based on 2007 model year vehicles and on a Dodge Agility plan. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer. †Payable if you exercise the option to purchase the car; ††Includes optional purchase payment and £95 purchase activation fee, based on 10,000 miles per annum. Excess mileage charges may apply. Finance subject to status from Dodge Finance. Dodge Finance is a trading name of Mercedes-Benz Financial Services UK Ltd, MK7 8ND. Terms and conditions apply. Prices and specifications correct at time of going to press (04/08).

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06 (06) CZ2 1.3 Auto, 5DR, Grey
08 (08) Lancer GS3 1.8 Auto, 4Dr, Blue
08 (08) Lancer GS3 1.8, 4Dr, Silver
08 (08) Lancer GS4 2.0 DID 4Dr, Red
08 (08) Lancer GSRSST 300 LTR, 4Dr, Red
08 (08) Lancer GSR 300, 4Dr, Red
08 (08) Outlander 2.2 Diamond, Red
07 (57) L200 Warrior, Tow Bar, Rear parking, Liner, Grey
07 (57) L200 Warrior, Tow Bar, Rear parking, Liner, Grey
07 (57) L200 Animal, Tow Bar, Rear parking, Liner, Grey
07 (57) L200 Animal, Trux Top, Liner, Silver
08 (08) L200 Diamond, 20" Alloys, Liner, Rear Parking, Sports Bar, Blue

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Colt 3Dr 1.1 Black Hawk, Sparkling Black
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Shogun LWB 3.2 DI-DC Elegance Auto, Graphite Grey
Lancer 2. DI-D GS4Dr, Manual, Stone Grey
Lancer 2.0 Evolution X Osi Lightening Blue
Outlander 2.0 DI-D Warrior, Cool Silver
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Lancer 1.6 Equippe 4Dr Auto, Cool Silver
Colt 3Dr 1.1 CZ1 Manual, Atlantis Blue
Colt 3Dr 1.1 Black Hawk, Sparkling Black
Colt 3Dr 1.5 CZT Black Hawk, Mystic Black
Colt 3Dr 1.1 CZ1 Manual, Spicy Red
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07 57 Suzuki Swift 1.5 GLX 5 Door Hatchback 2,000 Miles Red £8,295
07 57 Suzuki Swift 1.5 GLX 5 Door Hatchback 2,500 Miles Sunlight Copper £8,495
07 57 Suzuki Swift 1.5 GLX 5 Door Hatchback 2,500 Miles Blue £8,295
07 57 Suzuki Swift 1.5 GLX 5 Door Hatchback 2,500 Miles Blue £8,495
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Slick Tiguan answers need for greener 4x4s

OVERALL 4x4 sales may be bogged down in the marketing equivalent of a ploughed field, but some deserve to conquer the muck.

VW's talented Tiguan is one, managing to cover all the bases for a modern-day SUV (sports utility vehicle): compact footprint, top-notch engines, excellent on-road ability and decent off-road powers too, plus a more premium badge and the guarantee of better values when you come to sell.

VW also hedged its bets by launching two Tiguans: an everyday model and the 'Escape' intended to allow owners to do just that.

It puts most other compact 'soft-roaders' in their place when the going gets tough.

In truth, the Tiguan Escape is no Land Rover Freelander; the VW's lighter weight transmission system mostly runs in front-wheel drive for better economy, only transferring extra grip to the rear when required.

Still, there is enough off-road clout for most situations thanks to a shorter front overhang – which actually improves the styling in my opinion – radiator and sump guards, plus a standard-fit 'off-road mode' that optimises the hill descent control and other driver/mechanical aids.

I was impressed when I had the chance to put the Escape under off-road pressure, but this type claims just five per cent of Tiguan sales, most being the more conventional body style.

Of these, the biggest seller is the 2.0-litre diesel in mid-range SE trim as tested here, but the current diesel V petrol price differential makes a strong case for the so-called 'twin charger' Tiguan, featuring a lightweight 148bhp 1.4-litre petrol engine with supercharger and turbocharger, allowing diesel-style pulling power and low emissions.

It certainly makes the Tiguan feel nimble and knocks more than £1,000 off prices for diesel equivalents, in what is a relatively expensive line-up.

DrivingReview

by STEVE LOADER
CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

VW Tiguan

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Copen 1.3 as shown is £11,995 OTR. Metallic paint and leather seats are an extra cost. Prices are correct at time of going to press and include £55 first registration fee and 12 months road fund license. Available only at participating dealers while stocks last.

Official Government Fuel Consumption Figures (mpg (Litres per 100 km) and CO_2 emissions g/km) Urban Cycle 36.7 (7.7) Extra Urban 56.5 (5.0) Combined 47.1 (6.0) CO_2 emissions 140

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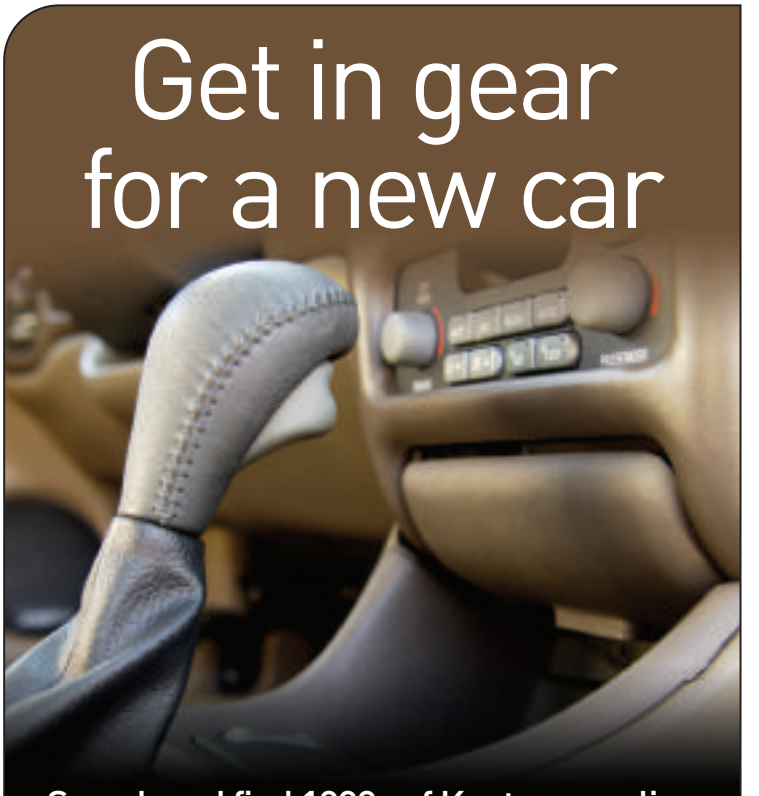

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Nevertheless, the 2.0-litre diesel is the 'banker' in the range; it is smooth, refined and powerful across the board – the consummate all-rounder.

The Tiguan interior is typical VW, mixing robust quality, good ergonomics and stowage and fine seating. Space engineering is excellent so, despite being roughly the same size as key competitors, the car feels more spacious and has a decent boot plus lift-up rather than side-opening tailgate and room for a spare wheel.

The Tiguan has a maximum five-star rating for occupant protection by Euro NCAP, plus four stars for child safety and two stars for pedestrian protection.

A unique and thoughtful selling point though is that VW has moved the door seals underneath the car so that muck thrown up on the underside is unlikely to reach the door sills and transfer to passengers' shoes and clothes as they get in and out. It is such a clever touch that it will surely be picked up and used elsewhere by VW and its rivals.

From the driver's point of view, the Tiguan is one of the best in class. The ride is on the firm side, but the chassis ensures that a relatively high vehicle corners with a flat stance.

With the kind of low-down pulling power endowed by the test car's 138bhp 2.0-litre diesel, this allows the Tiguan to be pushed hard on a challenging road, aided by a precise six-speed gearbox that also makes it a steady and quiet motorway cruiser.

Finally, the neatest trick of all and surely available soon across the VW range is the optional Park Assist system pioneered on the Tiguan MPV.

Linking with the parking sensors, this parallel parks the car automatically – the driver sits 'hands off' the wheel and simply controls the brake. It is intuitive to use and beats Toyota's rather complex rival system.

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DrivingStats

- VW Tiguan SE 2.0 TDI 140PS 4Motion £21,770
- Range: £19,380-23,370
- Garage stats: 4.43m by 1.81m four-door SUV
- Powertrain: 1,968cc/138bhp four-cylinder turbodiesel driving all four wheels through a six-speed manual gearbox
- Performance: top speed 115mph and 0-62 in 10.5 seconds
- How green?: road tax band-E (£170/yr), CO2 emissions/182g per km
- Official fuel figures: combined 40.9mpg
- Euro NCAP safety rating (0-5 stars): *****
- Fuel tank: 60 litres/14 gallons
- Insurance group: 9
- Warranty: three years/60,000 miles
- Website: www.volkswagen.co.uk

Rivals: BMW X3, Chevrolet Captiva, Citroën C-Crosser, Daihatsu Terios, Fiat Sedici, Ford Kuga, Honda CR-V, Hyundai Tucson, Jeep Patriot or Compass, Kia Sportage, Land Rover Freelander, Mitsubishi Outlander, Nissan Qashqai 4x4 or X-Trail, Peugeot 4007, Renault Koleus, Seat Altea Freetrack, Subaru Forester, Suzuki SX4 and Grand Vitara, Toyota RAV4 and Vauxhall Antara

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ALFA ROMEO

156, TS 16V TURISMO, gj04vyv, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, radio, 15'' alloys, grey, 58000 miles, £4699, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

GT, LUSSO, gj07cnc, alarm, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, climate control, drivers airbag, electric windows, leather interior, passenger airbag, power steering, remote central locking, side airbags, tinted glass, traction control, trip computer, upgraded in-car entertainment, red, 17000 miles, £16995, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

AUDI

A2, 1.4 SPORT 5dr, 03/10/2002, cd player abs alarm driver airbag power steering immobiliser cruise control electric windows, silver, 58488 miles, £6499, Invicta Motors, Ramsgate, 01843 853555 (TRADE)

TT, QUATTRO 1.8 20V T 225PS, dec 2001 wf51xod, three previous keepers, power steering, remote central locking, climate control, electric windows, 6 speed gearbox, full service history, single cd player, twin & side airbags, abs brakes, esp, engine immobiliser, car alarm, on-board computer, electricdoor mirrors, front fog lamps, tinted glass, adj. steering column, seat height adjuster, grey leather interior, sports seats, heated seats, split rear seats, alloy wheels, brilliant black metallic, 45, 500 miles, £12, 995, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE)

CADILLAC

CTS, CTS 3.6 SPORT luxury v6, 2005, light platinum with black leather, 22379 miles, £12950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CHEVROLET

CAPTIVA, LTX 2.0, finished in denim blue with black interior, blue, 4000 miles, £22995, caffyns chevrolet t wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

KALOS, SX, finished in red, 17000 miles, £4989, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

MATIZ, 1.0SE, ocean blue with blue interior, blue, 5000 miles, £7590, caffyns chevrolet t wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

TACUMA, SX 1.6, gf56kcu, finished in blue with black cloth interior, blue, 3000 miles, £6995, caffyns chevrolet t wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

CHRYSLER

300C, 5.7V8 auto estate, 2007, brilliant crystal met with dark and light slate gr, 10577 miles, £18950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

NEON, 2.0 LXI, 1995 (n), 95 (n) chrysler neon 2.0 lxi automatic, 5 door saloon, metallic green coachwork with contrasting grey velour trim, low mileage, service history, new mot, ew x 4, em, pas, air bags, original hi-fi, only 1 owner from new. £995, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

CITROEN

CITROEN BERLINGO 800, 04 2005, 1.9d lx side door white pas 43.000 miles fsh lined, £4350, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

C2, 1.1I DESIGN 3dr, 2005, 1.1i design 3dr hatch, red, 24500 miles, £5495, Barretts Citroen, canterbury, 0845 3709768 (TRADE)

C3, 1.4I CODE 2dr, 2007, 1.4i code 2dr pluriel convertible special eds, silver, 1000 miles, £9495, Wilmoths Folkestone, Folkestone, 01303 245 588 (TRADE)

FIAT

F500, SPORT, gl57cfg, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, drivers airbag, electric windows, leather interior, passenger airbag, power steering, remote central locking, side airbags, split/folding rear seats, tinted glass, traction control, trip computer, red, 3000 miles, £10495, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

BRAVO, DYNAMIC, gf07sxw, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, climate control, drivers airbag, electric windows, passenger airbag, power steering, remote central locking, side airbags, split/folding rear seats, tinted glass, traction control, trip computer, metallic paint, blue, 7000 miles, £10995, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

FORD

C-MAX, 1.6 STYLE 5dr, ca07bzy, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, central locking, child locks, cloth upholstery, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, folding rear seats, remote locking, radio/cd, sports seats, blue, 13000 miles, £8995, SMC Ford Gravesend, Gravesend, 0844 5762452 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCI GHIA, 2007, insurance group 5 abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser leather seats passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking trip computer 1 owner service history, panther black, 10000 miles, £9000, A 1 Carriages, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 ZETEC 5dr [Climate pack], gn55gvr, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, contact lewis gallego or tony mcwilliams, blue, 14000 miles, £7695, SMC Ford Gravesend, Gravesend, 0844 5762452 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 2.0 GHIA X Auto, 2006, insurance group 11 abs alarm alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers climate control cruise control drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors electrically adjustable drivers seat electrically adjustable passenger seat folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors heated front seat height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser leather seats passenger airbag power steering radio/cd multichanger rear electric windows remote central locking side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment steering wheel reach adjustment trip computer 1 owner service history, panther black, 9000 miles, £12000, A 1 Carriages, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

HONDA

ACCORD, - 2.2 I-CTDi Ex 4dr, 978649, honda accord 2.2 i-ctdi ex 4dr honda honda maidstone drake & fletcher silver, 2007, 6000 miles, manual, diesel, 4 doors, 1 previous owners, silver, £17989, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

CIVIC, - 1.4 SE, 1265649, honda civic 1.4 se honda honda Tunbridge Wells drake & fletcher vivid blue, 2008, 10 miles, manual, petrol, 1 doors, 1 previous owners, blue, £13900, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

JEEP

GRAND CHEROKEE, 1997, green, 180000 miles, £2995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

KIA

PICANTO, 1.1 ICE ME, 2008, delivery mileage only remote central locking front electric windows abs alarm air conditioning radio/cd, metallic black, miles, £6995, Masters Bromley Kia, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

SEDONA, 2004, blue, 44000 miles, £6995, WJ King Vauxhall, Farningham, 01322 862366 (TRADE)

LAND ROVER

DEFENDER, SANTANA PS10 Pick Up, gn55fem, immobiliser, power steering, tow pack, cd player, 4x4, ifor williams canopy. road tax is £180 per year on this vehicle. metallic green, 2000 miles, £9995, Diesel Centre, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

DISCOVERY, TDi, p, maroon, 100000 miles, £1500, kent, 07973715872 (PRIVATE)

LEXUS

GS300, GS 300 SE, 503461, remote alarm, central locking, full leather, electric seats, air bag, abs, power steering, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, cd player, climate control, electric windows, electric mirrors, 15'' alloys, blue, 130000 miles, £2999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

MAZDA

MAZDA2, 007 Mazda - 1.5 Sport, 1279649, metallic paintwork, mazda 2007 mazda 2 1.5 sport mazda mazda ashford drake & fletcher met grey, 2008, 3500 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, grey, £10995, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

MAZDA3, - 1.6 Ts2 5dr, 1277649, mazda mazda 3 1.6 ts2 5dr mazda mazda ashford drake & fletcher silver, 2006, 11800 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, silver, £9790, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

MERCEDES-BENZ

230 SPORT KOMPRESSOR, 1998, fantastic car with full ivory leather interior.full sport pack. lilac/blue, 57, 000 miles, £5999.00, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814131 (TRADE)

A CLASS, A170 ELEGANCE SE new shape, 1505077, remote alarm, remote central locking, centre armrest, rear headrests, multi-function steering wheel, power steering, traction control, abs, multiple airbags, auto lighting, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, 16'' alloys, always over 60 mercedes-benz cars in stock! we will not be beaten on price! fully fsA regulated, saturn red metallic, 26000 miles, £8995, DW Leisure Mercedes Benz Specialist, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

C CLASS, C320 ELEGANCE, av51lfo, remote central locking, full leather, centre armrest, electric seats, adjustable steering column, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, power steering, trip computer, traction control, abs, multiple airbags, auto lighting, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, roof rails, electric mirrors, electric windows, climate control, cd player, jasper blue, 90000 miles, £5000, Clearways Commercials, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

MINI

COOPER, 1.6 3dr, ls55olk, multi-disc cd player, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, electric front windows, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, height adjustable seat, retractable headrests, folding rear seats, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, power steering, trip computer, automatic electric windows, cd player, radio, stereo, 15'' alloys, chilli red white roof, 19321 miles, £10299, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

ONE, 1.6 3dr, 30/09/2005, cd player abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, blue, 20237 miles, £9999, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 01233 504400 (TRADE)

MITSUBISHI

MITSUBISHI L 200, 09 2006, 2.5 td d-id 4 life 4x4 pick up air con 9.000 miles day cab met blue, £9625, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

CARISMA, 1.9 TD DI-D ELEGANCE 5dr, cv53szo, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:10, blue, 49039 miles, £4994, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 0844 5762476 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.1 Black Hawk 3dr, gk08ych, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, computer, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric windows, immobiliser, head restraints, passenger airbag, radio/cd, power assisted steering, rear headrests. insurance group:3, black, 50 miles, £6994, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 0844 5762476 (TRADE)

NISSAN

MICRA, 1.0 E 5dr, wk54efv, abs, air bag, twin air bags, electric front windows, cd player, rear wash/wipe, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, retractable headrests, folding rear seats, adjustable steering column, power steering, radio, stereo, arctic white, 8608 miles, £5299, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

NAVARA, DCI, bd56nce, remote alarm, cloth upholstery, centre armrest, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, electric windows, cd player, 3-person rear seat, privacy glass, side steps, head restraints, 17'' alloys, 4x4, load liner. aluminium silver, 40000 miles, £10495, Clearways Commercials, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

PRIMERA, SE, 6000079, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, rain-sensing wipers, remote central locking, alarm, electric windows, electric mirrors, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, cd player, radio, air conditioning, climate control, twin air bags, auto-dip rearview, abs, power steering, cloth upholstery, curtain airbags, grey, 38300 miles, £4995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

X-TRAIL, 2.0 16V SE 5dr, vo54hbh, climate control, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, electric front windows, electric windows, cd player, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, height adjustable seat, retractable headrests, folding rear seats, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, power steering, tow pack, automatic electric windows, air conditioning, radio, stereo, aruba blue, 11052 miles, £8998, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

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PEUGEOT BOXER 350, 06 2005, 2.8hdi lx lwb hi top fwd elec pack white 55.000 miles fsh, £6495, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

206, - 1.6 S 2dr Tip Auto, 1219649, peugeot 206 1.6 s 2dr tip auto mazda mazda maidstone drake & fletcher black, 2003, 64000 miles, automatic, petrol, 2 doors, 2 previous owners, black, £5989, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

206, 2.0CC, 3895637, finished in silver with interior, silver, 47000 miles, £6495, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

PORSCHE

911 CARRERA 4, 2002, meridian silver with blue leather, 46000 miles, £29950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

911 TURBO, 3.6 manual, 2003, black metallic with black leather, 17800 miles, £49950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CAYMAN, 3.4 S 2dr, 3.4 s 2dr coupe, 26000 miles, £33995, Wilmoths Ashford, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

PROTON

PERSONA, 1.5 GLSi Saloon 4d 1468cc auto, s 1999, electric windows, power assisted steering, drivers airbag, sunroof, remote mirrors, radio cassette. green, miles, £1995, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

RENAULT

CLIO, SPORT 16V 3dr, gn53pzx, remote central locking, immobiliser, full leather, head restraints, power steering, abs, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, radio, 16'' alloys, aluminium silver, 45000 miles, £5499, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

MEGANE, DYNAMIQUE , y, a lovely car in vgc, auto, elec s/r and windows, cd changer, spoiler.tax may 09, mot april 09. silver, 61800 miles, £1950, 01227 730808 (PRIVATE)

MEGANE, 1.4 EXPRESSION 5dr, 2003, 1.4 expression 5dr hatch, blue, 38897 miles, £4995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

SAAB

9-3, LINEAR TID 1.9, oct 2004 gf54wdc, two previous keepers, power steering,, air conditioning, electric windows, 6 speed gearbox, full service history, radio/cd player,, adj. steering column, seat height adjuster, alloy wheels. silver metallic, 32, 000 miles, £9, 495, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE

TOYOTA

AYGO, 2005, abs body coloured bumpers cloth seat trim drivers airbag folding rear seats full size spare wheel isofix child seat anchor points pas passenger airbag radio/cd rear headrests rear wiper remote central locking side airbags steel wheels steering wheel rake adjustment, grey, 25531 miles, £5495, WJ King Vauxhall, Rochester, 01634 723723 (TRADE)

CELICA, VVTI, 2006, red, 20000 miles, £11495, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

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VAUXHALL

ASTRA, SRI, 07, radio/cd/mp3-cd player, air con, elec front windows, elec mirrors, pas, 17" alloy wheels, remote c/l, driver/passenger/side impact airbags, front fog lamps, taxed till feb 2009, manufacturers warranty till feb 2010, full service history, excellent condition, blue, 14500 miles, £8500, Canterbury, 01227 728087 (PRIVATE)

CORSA, 1.2DESIG, lv07bky, finished in silver with black interior, silver, 8000 miles, £8990, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

CORSA, VXR TURBO, gx07pjy, finished in black with interior, black, 18000 miles, £13995, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

VECTRA, LS 16V, 2003, blue, 48000 miles, £4495, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

VOLKSWAGEN

BEETLE, 1.6 3 DOOR HATCHBACK, 2001 (x), 01 (x) vw beetle 1.6 3 door hatchback stunning metallic cherry coachwork with black fleck trim, traction control, remote central locking, alarm, air con, electric windows, electric mirrors, twin air bags, original hi-fi, full service history, low mileage (47000) stunning condition, group 7 insurance. only £5495 many more quality pre-owned cars for sale on: www.rivieracarsales.co.uk, metalic burgandy red, 47000 miles miles, £5495, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

GOLF, 1.9 SE TDI 130 5dr, 122871127, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, traction control, cruise control, electric front windows, electric windows, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, central locking, immobiliser, adjustable steering column, multi-function steering wheel, power steering, trip computer, child locks, roof rails, automatic electric windows, air conditioning, stereo, steering wheel audio controls, radio cassette, radio, cd player, reflex silver, 30997 miles, £9498, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

POLO, E 1.2 3dr, bl55dzp, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, colour coded interior, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, twin air bags, blue, 22000 miles, £5490, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

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S 60, SE, y 2001, service history, and a recent mot test and with the screen price we shall fit a new cambelt, service, 3 month warrenty, the car is taxed until sep 2008. finance is available subject to status, we shall also take your old car in part exchange. test drive and inspection welcome. black, 135000 miles, £2995, Courtenay Cars, Charing, Ashford, 01233 714848 (TRADE)

S60, S60 D5 SE, ov52 fkd, rear headrests, front fog lamps, remote central locking, alarm, full leather, electric seats, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, trip computer, twin air bags, curtain airbags, abs, power steering, auto-dip rearview, alloy wheels, blue, 64900 miles, £7495, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

S80, S80 LUXURY SE Auto, 6256079, front fog lamps, remote central locking, alarm, rear headrests, electric windows, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, twin air bags, curtain airbags, cruise control, abs, power steering, auto-dip rearview, rain-sensing wipers, alloy wheels, gold, 80100 miles, £5995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

V70, 2.4S BI-FUEL (CNG) Congestion Charge Exempt, 10003862074, alarm, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coded interior, centre armrest, height adjustable seat, lumbar support, adjustable steering column, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, power steering, trip computer, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, roof rails, electric mirrors, electric windows, dual climate zones, cd player, alloy wheels, silver, 75000 miles, £8990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

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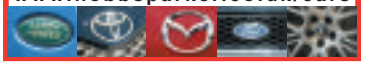

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University's India challenge

ONE of Kent's universities has taken a major step and become the first in the UK to set up a new up-and-running, full-scale Centre for Indian Business.

It is a very important move – India is second only to China in the massive industrial and economic leap forward that has transformed parts of Asia.

China's economy has powered ahead in the last few years with growth touching an astonishing 10 per cent a year, but India has been close behind registering annual growth of about nine per cent.

The University of Greenwich, which has a Medway campus, hopes it will become a useful resource for the whole region providing courses, research and consultancy to people and organisations doing business in and with India.

The industrialist and entrepreneur Mukul Kasliwal, chairman of the mighty textiles, energy and power combine, MW Corp, will

By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

chair the advisory board, while Tim Gore, currently director of education at the British Council in India, takes up the post of director in September.

Tessa Blackstone, vice-chancellor of the university, said: "The new centre is going to get the very best start under the leadership of Mr Kasliwal and Mr Gore.

"Mukul has experience at the top of large businesses in India and a keen interest in education which includes chairing the Malviya National Institute of Technology in Jaipur.

"Tim combines huge experience of building partnerships between the UK and India with expertise in business administration.

"He has his finger on the pulse of higher education and the contribution it can make to developing business and understanding the international business environment."

Mr Kasliwal said: "Building partnerships in a global economy is today's imperative and Greenwich is well placed to do this."

Mr Gore said: "The Indian economy offers enormous opportunities, but some will be lost if the skills are not there."

The centre will build on relationships the university has had with India for 50 years. The first students from Calcutta came to study engineering at what was then Thames Polytechnic in the 1960s.

Today Greenwich has more Indian students studying on its campuses than any other university in the UK.

The centre is located in the Business School which has more than 4,000 students and about 150 academic staff. Two new MBA programmes will be launched this autumn.

Elsewhere in the country, Leeds University and London Business School have India study centres, but a Greenwich official said: "It is an idea whose time has come, but Greenwich is ahead of the field, and we believe we are really well placed to develop strong links with India and become a centre of excellence."

TIM GORE: Huge business experience

Cast net wider in pool of talent, firms urged

KENT businesses are missing out on a vast reservoir of talent because many fail to understand job-hunting habits of the groups of under-represented people in the UK workplace.

The finding comes from a recent report which examined the recruitment trends of female, ethnic minority and disabled managers with the aim of sorting out ways of attracting more diverse talent in the workplace.

Stephen Timms, the Minister of State for Employment and Welfare Reform, said: "This study shows it is crucial that employers take a close look at the methods they use to attract recruits and to appeal to all groups, not just a limited band of potential employees."

The study, published by the Chartered Management Institute, Department for Work and Pensions and Institute for Employment Studies, looked at the career aspirations and job search methods of a range of diverse groups.

Headline findings, based on the views of 1,350 respondents, include:

- Discrimination: prejudice remains a key issue, with one in three Asian managers citing racial discrimination as a barrier to career progression;
- Hidden talent: 76 per cent look for jobs online, but their skills are being missed with only 11 per cent claiming to find suitable jobs via the internet;
- Stunted growth: although 77 per cent accepted their current role because of 'development opportunities', only 45 per cent say this has happened. Data shows that Asian and black managers feel more let down than white managers.

Asked how they identify new opportunities, most scour newspapers, with 76 per cent using online job searches. Two-thirds rely on personal networks or professional bodies.

Press advertising is more popular among black managers, online searches are preferred by Asian managers and personal networking favoured by white managers.

Print media continues to be a major source of job advertising. The data shows that 37 per cent of individuals claim they found their current job through the press. Only 11 per cent cited online job searches as the primary source of the vacancy they filled.

Jo Causon, director of marketing and corporate affairs at the Chartered Management Institute, said: "Despite increasing demands for openness and transparency, many of the barriers to achieving greater diversity at a senior management level persist. It should be a key concern for employers because they run the risk of wasting a talent pool."

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Red Arrow hits wi-fi target with bus broadband

By **TONY PATEY**
Business Editor

MOOVERA Networks, the Sittingbourne-based developer of fixed and mobile wireless communications systems, is providing one of the UK's leading independent bus operators with on-board broadband facilities.

Trent Barton is going to use the award-winning Moovbox M Series mobile broadband facility to offer internet connectivity on commuter coaches running between Nottingham and Derby in the Midlands.

The operator has wi-fi-enabled eight Scania Irizar vehicles on the Red Arrow service, which departs every 15 minutes during rush hour and is popular with business travelers and students.

Moovera's M Series won the best wi-fi product or service accolade – beating more than 200 entries from 35 countries – at the Wireless Broadband Innovation Awards 2008. It is already being used by some of the world's largest transport companies, including Arriva, FirstGroup, Go-Ahead, National Express and Stagecoach. Trent Barton will also use the Moovbox for GPS-based automatic vehicle location (AVL) to keep track of the fleet via Moovera's MoovManage remote monitoring system.

"We've made a significant investment to modernise our fleet of more than 270 buses and are continually seeking new ways to provide better services," said Mark Greasley, commercial manager at Trent Barton.

"By putting wi-fi hotspots on our vehicles we're offering passengers a way to make the most of the 40-minute journey.

"We chose the Moovera Moovbox as it offers not only wi-fi but also GPS tracking and the ability in the future to connect other systems such as ticketing and security over the iternet to our operations centre."

Jim Baker, Moovera's chief executive officer and founder, said: "The Red Arrow service Trent Barton operates in the Midlands is popular with commuters who will immediately benefit from the ability to get online for free while on the bus.

"But the additional ability of the Moovbox to act as a internet hub for in-vehicle services such as tracking, CCTV and entertainment means that forward-thinking operators like Trent Barton are equipping their fleets for future multimedia applications".

Key database reminder

CALLING all business owners – Kent Police are reminding you to join the ground-breaking Kent Keylink scheme as the old manual key-holder database will be decommissioned next month.

It is a 24-hour online service for residents and business owners. The website, set up in July, 2007, gives police immediate access to key-holder details, along with other important information, should an incident occur at someone's home or business.

The Kent constabulary is the first force to join up with the business community to launch such a service.

Registration is £25 plus VAT for businesses, £20 including VAT for household residents, and there are deals available for larger companies.

For more details, pick up a leaflet from any police station front counter, or visit www.kentkeylink.co.uk, or contact Tiffany Hills or Nina Williams on 01622 636326.

Profits race away in F1 slipstream

MARGATE-BASED Hornby, the globally renowned toys and hobbies group, boosted sales by nearly a fifth last year to £55.7 million, and profits were up by almost the same proportion at £9m.

The figures were aided by a surge in interest in Formula One generated by race ace Lewis Hamilton, which helped boost sales of Scalextric slot-car racing sets by 23 per cent.

Airfix, which Hornby bought for £2.3m in 2006, clocked up sales of £5m, some £1m ahead of expectations. Last month Hornby bought Corgi for £8.3m.

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VAT ruling hits jackpot for Rank

BAKER Tilly, the business advisors and auditors group which has offices in Bromley and Tunbridge Wells, says a recent VAT tribunal decision is excellent news for bingo halls, amusement arcades and gaming machine operators.

The tribunal found in favour of the Rank Group which means HM Revenue and Customs may be required to repay it more than £36 million in overpaid VAT.

Rank said different VAT treatment applying to games of mechanised cash bingo according to the stake paid, offended a legal principle which had been underlined by the European Court of Justice.

HMRC may appeal to the High Court but it could take years to resolve. Baker Tilly advises gaming companies to submit claims to recover VAT they believe they have erroneously overpaid.

Law firm rebuilds

A LEADING South East law firm, Cripps Harries Hall LLP, which has offices in Tunbridge Wells, has strengthened its internal leadership structure with the creation of four distinct divisions.

This builds on its external restructure in 2005. The internal reorganisation is made up of Clare Hyland – portfolio property; Bill Mackie – development; Gavin Tyler – corporate; Myles McIntosh – private client.

Spicy meatballs serve up top award for firm

Millifoods' tasty dish too hot for competitors

By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

HINXHILL-based food producer, Millifoods, has beaten off major competition from rival catering giants to win a coveted Gold Award prize in the prestigious annual British Frozen Food Federation Awards.

The firm, which has been manufacturing frozen ready meals for the food service industry and select retail outlets for just four years, was awarded Best New Multi-Portion Product for its spicy meatballs dish.

Fighting prominent UK contenders such as Brakes and KK Fine Foods, the company was selected for its award by judges from the Craft Guild of Chefs at the Federation's annual awards at the Park Lane Hilton, London.

Stephen Drew, its managing director, who lives in Bonnington near Ashford said: "Congratulations go to all my hard-working staff – they've all played a part in the huge success of our delicious spicy meatballs.

"Special thanks must go to Tracy Mitchell our product development manager. Beating the Goliaths of the food industry is a real boost to us all.

"We're a young company but we're now supplying a growing national customer base with everything from traditional English casserole dishes to a range of European and Eastern dishes and an extensive vegetarian menu."

Flair

Linked with the firm is Shelagh Milligan, widow of the great Goon comedian and writer Spike, who apparently has a natural flair for vegetarian cookery and recipe development. Many of Millifoods' vegetarian dishes were originally prepared by her for Spike.

The company currently employs 36 local people at its factory and its client base includes big names such as Compass, BHS, Roadchef, Brakes and P&O Ferries.

It has already achieved an A-Grade Certification for its manufacture of frozen ready meals and the repacking of frozen vegetables.

GOOD TASTE: The product development manager at Millifoods, Tracey Mitchell, serves MD Stephen Drew with her award-winning spicy meatballs

In addition, it won Ashford Borough Council's 'Scores on the Doors' maximum five-star rating for very high standards of food safety management, fully compliant with food safety legislation.

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Auction room's a stage for Andrew

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Many a person has made a fortune wielding a hammer with skill, but auctioneers hope to make other people rich when their hammers come down.

After Andrew Binstock left university he got the bug when he entered an amateur auctioneering competition.

He blagged his way into a job with James Kersh, whose freelance auctioneer had just resigned, and they set up London-based SKB Auctions in 2006.

They've sold property in Kent and they aim to carry out auctions here as well in the future.

At 32 he's younger than most auctioneers. He also invented the concept of auctioning property online with a fully automated website. It took two years to create with a web developer, and the firm hopes to merge traditional and online services.

He talks to KOS Media:

Q *Was there a circumstance or event which made you want to become an auctioneer, or was it just the buzz in the amateur auctioneer competition?*

A Watching other people doing it, plus my stint doing stand-up comedy – I liked being on stage but hated the feeling that I wasn't doing well – gave me a taste for wanting to be an auctioneer. Once I did the amateur competition, I knew it was something I could be good at, and that was when it all started.

Q *Which skills would you recommend for auctioneering?*

A It's not as easy as it looks. Being a good auctioneer is tough. It requires many skills and not all of them are obvious. You need a detailed knowledge of the property market, law of procedure and process, the ability to communicate and must be highly organised. An outgoing personality also goes a long way.

Q *You obviously need a quick brain, but how do you spot people bidding and do you have a method for developing a session?*

A Spotting bidders is easy, they normally raise their catalogue in the air for the first bid. After that I just return to them and then they may just do a subtle nod. When there is frantic bidding with hands going up all over the place, it's sometimes difficult to keep it well regulated, but I just use speed of counting, fast tempo and develop a rhythm between two bidders. As soon as one of them drops off, I'll go to someone else.

Q *How is SKB Auctions' business developing in Kent?*

A We've sold property in Kent and it's not an area we have held auctions, but if demand in the future dictates we may well begin to.

Q *How is your particular form of property-selling doing in the current economic climate?*

A Like all selling agents, we are at the mercy of the buyers in the current climate. They hold all the cards at the moment. Bidders have been snapping up prime stock, which has potential for further development or is priced very cheaply, and this area of the market is still strong. But non-prime stock, new builds which are listed with local estate agents are proving more stubborn to shift.

Q *What are your tips for a young person wanting to become an auctioneer?*

A I did stand-up comedy for four months. Having felt the solitude and despair of an unamused audience glaring up at me means very little phases me on the rostrum.

You need to be able to count quickly and accurately, deal with hecklers, be unphased when unexpected things happen like someone shouting a question at you mid-auction.

You need to command the room and be in control at all times. You will often be on the rostrum for more than five hours without a break – so being able to concentrate for long periods of time is essential.

According to the National Association of Estate Agents, the first step to becoming a competent auctioneer is to complete training as an estate agent.

This will include reference to auctions as a method of the sale of property, but it will stop short of detailed knowledge and training of the role of the auctioneer.

Academic qualifications are not essential and the NAEA is unique in offering a comprehensive course including whole-day workshops for property auctioneers, it is asked though that delegates be competent practising estate agents.

Q *How do you relax?*

A I have a one-year-old daughter and playing with her really relaxes me, as well as watching Chelsea – I'm a season ticket holder – playing football three times a week and going to watch stand-up comedians.

BID BUSINESS: Auctioneer Andrew Binstock

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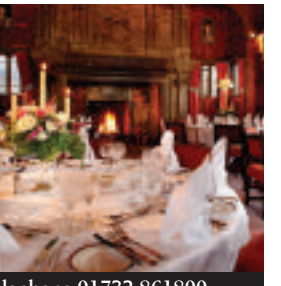

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WITH world food stocks at an all-time low and food production becoming increasingly important farmers are trying to balance maximising yields to meet global demand, while enhancing the environment.

However, fertiliser supply is under pressure and has more than doubled in price in the last 12 months, reducing margins by more than £100 per hectare and putting profitability at risk.

Additionally, when fertiliser is purchased at prices of more than £340 per tonne for nitrogen, many farmers may need to ask for increased bank borrowing.

So, will 2008 see a change in how crops are grown with farmers increasingly looking to reduce their costs by using recycled products?

Kent farmers have three main products available to reduce increasing fertiliser costs and improve soil condition; compost, paper and bio products.

Compost is made from green waste and has a number of benefits for farmers. Firstly, it has a good nutrient value, which recent research has shown is worth £7-9 per tonne alone.

Secondly, not only does the compost add to the nutrient status of the soil but also helps increase soil organic matter, improving soil structure, reducing erosion risk and improving water holding capacity.

Thirdly, the improvement in structure makes the soil easier to cultivate over time and thus reduce labour and machinery time and costs.

Recycled paper and bio products have similar benefits to compost with good nutrient values and add organic matter, improve soil structure and water retention.

The use of composts will also assist farmers in meeting cross compliance conditions for soil management.

Given that all farmers need to fertilise their crops reducing costs is essential and a planned nutrient management plan incorporating compost, inorganic fertiliser and other products is essential.

For further information, advice or help with sourcing please contact Andy West, FGS Agri, 01233 820055.

Save the cherry

THE first ever British Cherry Day, on July 19, is the culmination of CherryAid, a campaign by FoodLoversBritain.com to save the British cherry, and will feature a host of high profile foodie events.

In Kent, Brogdale near Faversham; Rent-a-Cherry in Sandhurst; The West House in Biddenden; New House Orchard in Sheldwich and Park Farm at Lynsted are all involved. For details, visit www.FoodLoversBritain.com and click on the CherryAid logo.

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Get off my land!

By **ANDREW GOUGH**
Partner, Furley Page Solicitors

THE law relating to someone taking possession of someone else's land is, frankly, a bit of a mess.

Any claim for possession depends on whether the land is registered or unregistered, and how many years the claimant has been in occupation.

Broadly, the position is as follows:

- For registered land – since October 13, 2003, when the new Land Registration Act 2002 came into force, 10 years is sufficient, but notice has to be given to the registered freeholder, who has an opportunity to object;
- For registered or unregistered land – between October 2, 2000, (when the Human Rights Act 1998 came into force) and October 12, 2003, the claimant had to prove 12 years' adverse possession.

He also had to prove it was inconsistent with the use or intended use of the land by the owner and not merely without the owner's consent.

The whole issue was highlighted in a recent legal case Pye (Oxford Ltd) v Caroline Graham. The Graham family won a case involving their continued occupation of a plot of land, having successfully argued before the House of Lords that they had entitlement to the land by more than 12 years' adverse possession.

Pye couldn't recover the land because it was prevented by the Limitation Acts from taking any court action. (A claim for possession had to be made within 12 years).

Pye took the case to the European Court, claiming loss of entitlement to a valuable piece of land contradicted the Human Rights Act 1998 which states that everyone – including a company – is entitled to the peaceful enjoyment of his possessions.

Although the Act didn't apply as the case was brought before it came into force, Pye then argued it was entitled to government compensation. The European Court agreed, but Prime Minister Gordon Brown and Chancellor Alistair Darling took the matter to the Grand Chamber of the Court and won.

The court declared that: interference with property rights was justifiable as the legislation had been in force for many years; it represented a control of the use of land and didn't carry with it a right to compensation; it represented a fair balance between public and private rights.

Pye could have taken reasonable steps to protect its interest. The fact that the Grahams gained a huge development value was irrelevant.

SO HOW can a landowner protect himself? The watchwords should be: "Get off my land."

- It is wise to apply for voluntary registration at the Land Registry of any unregistered land;
- If you have registered land, ensure you have up-to-date names and addresses at the Land Registry so you are given notice of any potential claim;
- Make sure you inspect your land and see that boundaries are correctly maintained;
- Seek immediate professional advice if you are given notice of a claim;
- Don't delay – seek possession of your land if you think you have squatters.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

It's all pie in the sky

STAFF from Maidstone-based DSH chartered accountants and business advisors took on a crucial role in the annual World Custard Pie Championships after they were called in to oversee fair play at the slapstick charity event.

Half a dozen volunteers from the firm put themselves in the firing line to count the number of hits and misses from pies thrown between teams in fancy dress at the County Showground, Detling, for the 41st world championships.

The fiercely fought contest saw 22 squads hurl more than 2,300 plates of gooey mess at each other.

But they didn't use real custard in the pies – that would cause ricochet problems – but a messy mixture containing self-raising flour.

Touring the Commons

VISIT Kent – a private and public partnership promoting the county's £2 billion tourist industry – sponsored the UKInbound biennial parliamentary reception at the House of Commons recently.

UKInbound represents the interests of companies getting a substantial part of their income from tours and tourism services for overseas visitors.

Hosted by Janet Anderson MP, the event brought together members with the All-Parliamentary Group on Tourism with the aim of helping the Government have a better understanding of the industry.

Moving in

VERTEX Law, which claims to be one of the South East's fastest growing legal practices, has moved to a new legal hub on the Kings Hill business park in West Malling.

The new offices, covering 15,000 sq ft on three storeys, are double the capacity of the firm's old premises.

Net pioneer joins team

By **TONY PATEY**
Business Editor

KENT-BORN internet tycoon Mike Hardcastle has bought a controlling interest in a relatively new development company which has established itself as one of the leading providers of web-based software and services.

Tonbridge-based Ellion has built-up a top-notch client portfolio which includes Bourne Leisure, Haven Holidays, Butlins, Warners and Wanderlust in the travel sector, insurance firms Lutine and Cassidy Davis, as well as a local organisations such as Kent County Council, Tick-Tock Publishing and Unipar Services.

Now it has on board net pioneer and equity investor Mr Hardcastle, who in the past was linked with Densitron Technologies, a family-built global PLC which he drove through the dotcom boom, building the share price from 50p to over £5.

He was also involved in building the friendsreunited website which was sold to ITV in 2005 for £150 million.

Jane Knight, technical director at Ellion, said: "I am delighted to welcome Michael to the team and look forward to working with him to develop and invest in our developer community here."

Fergus McCloskey, Ellion's marketing director, said the firm will be moving its London presence to offices in the heart of Covent Garden through Mr Hardcastle's relationship with SUPINFO, the French Technical Institute which is a worldwide higher school in computer science.

And plans also include expansion of the development team within Tonbridge, the creation of overseas partnerships to boost technical capability and the launch of new web-based products and services.

Mr Hardcastle was educated at Pickhurst Junior School, Hayes Secondary School and Bromley College. He lived in Bromley until five years ago when he moved to Oxford.

He started out in Downham at Roland Friday Keyboards, playing pianos and organs to demonstrate for customers and making deliveries. At Densitron Computers he connected the company to the internet via dial-up and in 1994 hand-coded the firm's first website and hosted it via a public server at a local ISP.

ON BOARD: Mike Hardcastle

ROME FROM HOME: Nick Oulton leads a lunchtime Latin session for staff at Galore Park

It's Tenterden's Latin quarter

IF YOUR Latin is confined to mea culpa and habeas corpus and you'd like to find out more, drop by the offices of a Tenderden educational publisher around lunchtime.

Former Latin teacher Nick Oulton will be giving his staff lessons in what is a far from dead language – as shown by the popularity of television programme Rome, Russell Crowe's Gladiator and Harry Potter's Latin spells.

Ten years ago he was frustrated as a teacher and parent by the lack of decent textbooks, especially for Latin. So he produced his own book and set up his own company, Galore Park, producing textbooks across a range of subjects. It specialises in textbooks primarily aimed at eight to 13-year-olds, and they're already used by some of the UK's top schools as well as about 90 per cent of prep schools. He said they're also suitable for adults wanting to continue their learning. And due to popular demand, he's now holding lunchtime Latin lessons for his 12 staff. Mr Oulton spent three years as a cavalry officer and three years as a merchant banker before moving into teaching.

Now Galore Park – named after an Edwardian comic novel about a croquet tournament – has a turnover of more than £1 million and ambitious plans to reach new audiences.

• Latin was not just the language of ancient Rome, it became the international language of science and scholarship in the Middle Ages, and supporters see it as a candidate for a 'global' language.

Along with ancient Greek, a knowledge of Latin gives a doorway into most European languages.

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Q I am a small employer and in view of the current economic situation I am planning to make a few employees redundant. What do I need to do?

A A number of steps must be followed as failure to do so could lead to a finding of unfair dismissal. Unless the employee has a unique role, you should identify the group of employees to be selected for redundancy. You must then consult the affected employees about the redundancy, ideally as a group initially and then individually before a firm decision is made. You must select fairly and base this on objective selection criteria, for example performance. Employers have to be careful as the once popular "last in first out" could have a bearing on age and therefore be indirectly discriminatory. Consider alternative employment in any associated companies, as well as the employing company for potentially redundant employees. Before giving notice of redundancy, you must follow the 3 step statutory dismissal and disciplinary procedures as failure to do so will render any redundancy dismissal automatically unfair. Also remember to give any redundancy pay which is due and give the correct amount of notice.

Q I am an employee who is close to retirement age, does this mean that I stop working when I reach 65?

A There is a procedure that must be followed prior to your compulsory retirement, this includes your employer's duty to consider your request to continue working.

Your employer must give you 6 - 12 months' notice in writing of your intended retirement date and also notify you that you have the right to request not to retire on the intended retirement date. If you make a request in writing 3 -6 months before the intended retirement date your employer must hold a meeting to consider it but is under no obligation to grant it. You have a right of appeal. If your employer decides to grant your request, s/he will have to follow the procedure again for the new retirement date if employment is extended for more than six months.

Work matters is provided as an overview of workplace issues and should not be taken as legal advice. Please contact us for advice specific to your circumstances.

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RT: Rate type **R%:** Rate percentage **L:** Loan **U:** Until
OD: Other details

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FIRST ACTIVE – RBS
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OD: £999 ARRANGEMENT

BRISTOL & WEST
RT: FIXED **R%:** 6.29% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/07/2011
OD: £1,000 ARRANGEMENT

FIRST TRUST BANK
RT: FIXED **R%:** 6.34% **L:** 80% **U:** 30/11/2011
OD: £899 ARRANGEMENT

BM SOLUTIONS
RT: FIXED **R%:** 6.35% **L:** 75% **U:** 01/10/2013
OD: £1,000 ARRANGEMENT

OTHER

HALIFAX
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 6.09% **L:** 75% **U:** 30/11/2013
OD: £999 ARRANGEMENT

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 5.89% **L:** 75% **U:** 2 YEARS
OD: £2,000 ARRANGEMENT

ABBEY
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 6.04% **L:** 75%
U: 2 YEARS **OD:** £849 ARRANGEMENT

DARLINGTON
RT: DISCOUNTED **R%:** 5.99% **L:** 90%
U: 30/06/2010 **OD:** £599 ARRANGEMENT

• THESE RATES CANNOT BE GUARANTEED AND ARE CORRECT AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS

Gated courtyard units available

HINDWOODS Chartered Surveyors are acting on behalf of a local development company to bring nine business units to central Swanley in a move that will bring the first development of its type to the town in nearly 20 years.

Just 250 yards from the town centre and within walking distance of the railway station, these units range from 2,658 sq ft upwards, with the development totalling 24,912 sq ft. Practical completion is due to take place in late August.

John Wilkins of Hindwoods said: "This is a gated courtyard development offering offices, light industrial and ancillary storage space all within three minutes of the M25/20 junction and offers a rare opportunity to either rent or buy well located and well specified business premises. We have had a good level of inquiries considering practical completion is still several weeks off."

The scheme is being marketed by joint agents Hindwoods and Edwin Hill. Full details can be obtained from Mr Wilkins at Hindwoods Hunter Payne on 01322 610440 or j.wilkins@hindwoods.co.uk or Graham Starling@altusedwinhill.co.uk.

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AXA	£8.57	NORWICH UNION	£19.25	LV=	£6.71	LUTINE	£15.56
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT	£8.74	LEGAL & GENERAL	£19.40	NORWICH UNION	£6.80	NORWICH UNION	£15.65
NORWICH UNION	£8.90	ZURICH	£19.45	LUTINE	£7.25	ZURICH	£15.70
LUTINE	£8.94	AXA	£19.60	AXA	£7.37	LEGAL & GENERAL	£15.80
LV=	£8.98	FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£19.69	SCOTTISH PROVIDENT	£7.50	FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£15.92
LEGAL & GENERAL	£9.05	LEGAL & GENERAL	£20.00	LEGAL & GENERAL	£7.55	SCOTTISH PROVIDENT	£16.24

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Movers & Shakers

ASB LAW: From left, Lyndsey Ratcliffe, Vicky Stoodley and Sara Carpenter

PROMOTIONS news from asb law, a top-100 law firm covering the South East from Maidstone and three other offices.

Vicky Stoodley, a planning lawyer at Maidstone, has been promoted to partner and head of the planning department. She joined the team there in 2006 and has played a key role in working for clients including Wandsworth council.

Sara Carpenter, part of corporate finance at Maidstone, has been promoted to associate. She completed her training contract with asb in 2005, and specialises in mergers and acquisitions. Lyndsey Ratcliffe, part of commercial litigation at Crawley, has been promoted to associate. She qualified in 2005.

A KENT man is celebrating after being recognised nationally for his sales achievements by liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) market leader Calor.

Jon Ansley, from Calor's Sittingbourne centre, has won the company's quarterly direct sales award after demonstrating sheer determination and an impressive set of results. Jon has consistently surpassed targets, including attaining more than 230 per cent of his quarterly target via cylinder contracts; secured 10 new stockists, increased marketing material – some which he hand delivered himself – and increased appliance sales enormously.

NEW chairman at Tunbridge Wells-based Reliance Mutual Insurance Society is Seamus Creedon, pictured, who joined the board as a non-executive director in March.

He succeeds Paul Oldham, who retires from the board having served 15 years as a non-executive director and seven as chairman. Mr Creedon said: "Under Paul's stewardship, we have made tremendous progress and moved with the times in what has been a very fast changing marketplace, especially over the last five years where the business has grown with assets increasing to £1.7 billion from £491 million." An actuary and management consultant, Mr Creedon was until recently a partner at KPMG, where he led the UK actuarial practice from 2000-03 and was deputy leader globally. More recently he advised the Irish government on competition issues in the health insurance market.

He has a high profile in professional circles as well, being a member of the Council of the Institute of Actuaries, and chair a life working group of the European actuarial profession. He qualified in 1976.

BUSINESS Link in Kent has made a senior appointment after going back to university to find the right person.

Bob Jones, pictured, joins as managing director, business services, arriving from Canterbury Christ Church University, where he oversaw the commercialisation of the institution's work as director of knowledge transfer. He replaces Jeff Gibson, who has returned to his native New Zealand. Prior to joining CCCU, Bob had a successful career with Marks & Spencer. His time with the retail giant included stints as regional manager in Belfast and in East Kent, and also a spell as general manager of its busy store at Lakeside, Thurrock. After retiring from Marks & Spencer, he worked as business and marketing executive at Whitstable Community College before joining the university. Claire Coday, Business Link Kent chief executive, said: "Bob has a fantastic track record."

CLYDESDALE Bank has officially launched its dedicated Thames Gateway team, designed to provide financial expertise for businesses in the area stretching from Dartford through Medway and into Swale.

More than 100 guests joined the team for a launch party at Clydesdale Bank's Maidstone centre. Paul Saunders, pictured, managing partner at Clydesdale's Financial Solutions Centre for Maidstone and the Thames Gateway, said: "In five years' time the Gateway will be unrecognisable in terms of the business environment thanks to the financial commitment being shown by the likes of Land Securities and government departments."

The five-strong team will be managed on a day-to-day basis by Jeremy Brett who was until recently a senior partner with RBS Corporate. He will work alongside two business partners, Gavin Coleman and Andy Bate, and two associates, Jane Richards and Dianne Willett, who complete the team.

PARTING GIFT: Philip Thomas and wife Jenny, left, with Mark Howard and Emma Roberts of Creaseys

WHEN Philip Thomas got fed up with commuting to London he made a move from an American toy company to Tunbridge Wells-based Creaseys chartered accountants.

Little did he think he would be marking his retirement with the same firm 37 years later. He said it was their forward-thinking attitude that attracted him in 1971, the year the UK went decimal.

He became a partner in 1975, and ran a team of 12 at the Tonbridge office, one of the four offices Creaseys had at that time, with about 50 employees. Although things have changed over the years, with one central office in Tunbridge Wells and nearly 100 staff, many of Mr Thomas's original clients have remained with the firm. He said: "Over time our role often becomes that of a trusted advisor. I have built many close relationships over the years, with clients becoming friends."

A retirement party at The Schools at Somerhill was attended by more than 160 clients, contacts, staff and friends.

Mark Howard, chairman of the firm, said: 'We would like to thank Philip for his hard work and dedication over the years."

ROYAL Bank of Scotland has appointed Robin Barnes as regional director of corporate banking in the South East. Mr Barnes, pictured, has more than 20 years' banking experience.

During the last six years he has led a corporate banking team covering West Sussex, Hampshire and Dorset and has a wealth of experience in business development. He will now be leading a team of more than 60 comprising RBS's Gatwick and Solent Corporate Banking operations.

Reporting to Mr Barnes is Ian Bain, head of corporate banking for Gatwick who will continue to lead the local team. The Gatwick team comprises of 30 experts working with customers who have an annual turnover of more than £25 million.

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A ROUGH GUIDE TO THE EUROPEAN OPEN

with DAVID PRITCHARD

The spotlight of the European Tour will shine on Kent next week as the London Golf Club comes of age when it hosts the £2.4m European Open.

Tens of thousands of spectators are expected for the four-day tournament, which begins at the club near Ash on Thursday.

It will feature the cream of the Continent's golfers, including defending champion Colin Montgomerie, Open champion Padraig Harrington, and Sergio Garcia and Justin Rose, who are ranked in the top-10 worldwide.

The European Open marks the latest achievement for the club, which only opened in 1994. For the last three years it has hosted the London Senior Masters, which general manager Heath Harvey believes was crucial to helping them arrange next week's event.

He told Kent on Sunday: "I think as the management team here at the club, we wouldn't want to be getting into anything this size without having had the experience of the previous three years of senior events.

"I think the years of doing the seniors have prepared us for this event and I think it's also shown the European Tour, hopefully, that the course we have here and the facility on site is capable of hosting something bigger and better."

Despite the months of planning which go into staging a big tournament, the course's layout has helped ease preparations.

Pinnacle

The Jack Nicklaus-designed Heritage Course is spread out over hundreds of acres to easily accommodate big galleries. Also, it was built to incorporate grass banks along most of the holes to act as natural grandstands, negating the need to build intrusive artificial ones.

Harvey said: "It's great the club is able to live up to what it was originally built for – to be hosting an event of this magnitude. The London Club has come a long way in the last four years and I think this tournament is very much the pinnacle."

The European Open will be the biggest golf tournament held in Kent since Royal St Georges in Sandwich hosted The Open Championship five years ago.

The European Open is one of the most prestigious events on the European Tour calendar. With the Open Championship taking place a fortnight later, it always attracts a strong field as the top players fine tune their games for the biggest prize in the sport.

The London Club won the race to host the event in February after fighting off interest from several other clubs across the country. It adds its name to a high-profile list of clubs to host the European Open in its 31-year history, including Sunningdale, Turnberry, Royal Liverpool and the K Club in Dublin.

• ***Log on to www.yourkenttv.co.uk to watch KOS Media's European Open video preview.***

Big challenge on and off the course

PAR FOR THE COURSE: The London Club will provide a testing challenge for some of the world's best players

HERITAGE COURSE, LONDON GOLF CLUB

DATE .....

PLAYER A.....HANDICAP.....STROKES RECEIVED.....
PLAYER B.....HANDICAP.....STROKES RECEIVED.....

HOLE NO	MARKER'S SCORE			PLAYER A	PLAYER B	RESULT
1st		4	398			
2nd		4	412			
3rd		3	194			
4th		4	384			
5th		5	541			
6th		4	454			
7th		3	187			
8th		5	563			
9th		4	448			
FRONT		36	3581			
10th		4	426			
11th		3	208			
12th		5	531			
13th		4	338			
14th		4	443			
15th		5	548			
16th		4	465			
17th		3	225			
18th		4	443			
BACK		36	3627			
Total		72	7208			
				HANDICAP		
				NET		

Marker's Signature .....
Player's Signature .....

Pictures: GETTY IMAGES

CONTENDER: Sergio Garcia will aim to add another title to the Players Championship trophy he won last month

BIG NAMES ON COURSE FOR THE LONDON CLUB

SERGIO GARCIA – 2008 Players Championship winner, his seventh title on the PGA Tour
JUSTIN ROSE – Four European Tour wins, 2007 European Order of Merit champion
PADRAIG HARRINGTON – Won the 2007 Open Championship at Carnoustie
RETIEF GOOSEN – Two-time US Open champion, twice won European Order of Merit
IAN POULTER – Seven European Tour titles, ranked 39 in the world
COLIN MONTGOMERIE – Eight-time European PGA Order of Merit titles, 31 Tour victories
DAREN CLARKE – Five appearances in the Ryder Cup, 2008 Asian Open champion
ROBERT KARLSSON – Ranked 22 in the world, fourth at 2008 US Open
MICHAEL CAMPBELL – 2005 US Open champion, eight titles on European Tour

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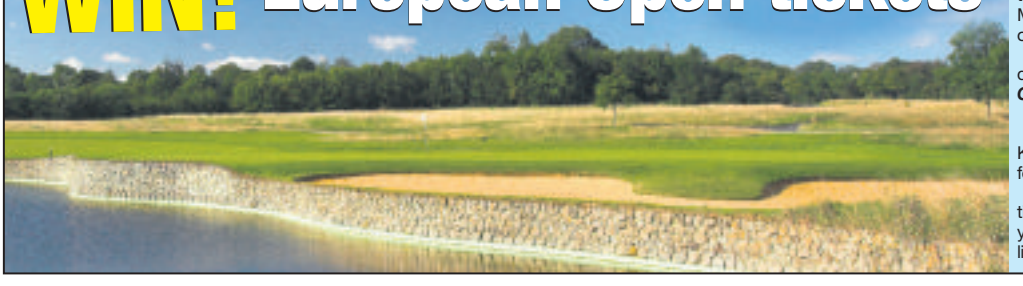

THOUSANDS of people will be heading to the London Golf Club for the European Open next week and thanks to the European Tour you could get in for free. KOS Media has five pairs of tickets to give away to be used on the Friday, Saturday or Sunday of the tournament.

To be in with a chance of winning, answer this question:

Q) Who is the defending European Open champion?

Deadline for entries is Tuesday, July 1, 2008.

Send your entries to: European Open Competition, KOS Media Ltd, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

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'Schedule is taking its toll on all of us'

Inside view

With ROB KEY

With crunch games fast approaching, Kent skipper says packed fixture list is giving players little time to recover

WE DID not play anywhere near to the best of our ability during the Twenty20 Cup group matches.

It was a real disappointment, but we will continue to keep scrapping because the big games keep coming thick and fast.

It is a hugely busy time of the season, and fighting important battles in Twenty20 cricket, championship cricket and in a Friends Provident Trophy semi-final – which is what we're facing in this current week – is incredibly taxing on the players.

What is more, with just one day free between Friday's final Twenty20 group match and the start of today's county championship game against Surrey at the Oval, and then just another single day between the scheduled end of the championship fixture and this coming Friday's big semi-final at Durham, the administrators are not making it easy.

But Durham will have had exactly the same problems as us and we have just got to get on with it. What we really need to do in this coming week is get our cricket firing on all cylinders.

When we do, and I am confident it must happen soon, we will really give some of our opponents a torrid time.

There are only a handful of Kent's players who, to my mind, can currently hold up their hands and say they have been playing to the best of their ability over the past few weeks.

Azhar Mahmood is certainly one, and the other I would pick out for a special mention is Joe Denly. At 22, he is continuing to develop his game really well.

If England are still on the lookout for someone to open the innings in one-day cricket who can combine good technique with an ability to hit over the top or through the infield – against quality international bowling – then why not give Joe a chance?

As for Azhar, he has been sensational for us so far this summer and must already be the leading candidate as English cricket's signing of the season.

He is a seriously good cricketer with some serious skills, and there is so much that he offers: new ball bowling, great variety at the death, he can bat anywhere in the order and get runs, and he can hit the ball right out of the park, such is his power.

But what Kent supporters don't see about Azhar is how helpful he is behind the scenes with the other players, and how hard he works on his own game.

After our recent match against Hampshire at the Rose Bowl, for example, he was so unhappy with the way he was bowling that he came into the club the next day – on what was a day off – and bowled for almost an hour until he got things going the way he wanted.

It is now up to the rest of us to follow Azhar's lead and get our performances up to where we want them to be. It has been particularly disappointing that our batting – which looks so long and strong on paper – has not been functioning.

Yes, we might bat all the way down to number 10 in terms of people who have scored first-class hundreds, but all that depth in talent is wasted if the players don't perform.

BIG HIT: Rob Key (above) says Azhar Mahmood is a player to look up to

Pictures: Key: IGOR KUPCO Mahmood: ADY KERRY

The championship match against Surrey, starting today, needs our fullest attention at the moment but we are all obviously aware of the importance of this Friday's Friends Provident Trophy semi-final.

We are just one step from a Lord's final but it is a tough draw to have to go up to Durham and play them at Chester-le-Street. They are also the trophy holders and a top one-day outfit.

I think it is important we make the most of the free day on Thursday and use it to get the long journey north out of our minds and bodies as well as to prepare properly for the following day.

We beat Durham in a Pro40 game at Canterbury last August, with Darren Stevens hitting an unbeaten 85 and taking three wickets, but up at the Riverside they are a very difficult team to beat. It will be a good time to play well.

• ***Rob Key, the Kent captain and England batsman, is one of Kent on Sunday's regular sports columnists.***

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Cavaday targeting top 100

TEENAGER Naomi Cavaday has set her sights on a place in the top 100 after giving defending champion Venus Williams a scare at Wimbledon.

The 19-year-old broke the four-time SW19 champion in the very first game of the match before forcing a first set tie break.

Williams' greater experience told in the decider as she won 7-5, before dominating the second set to make it through to the second round 7-6 6-1.

Despite the defeat, Cavaday is taking the positives from the match as she looks to improve her world ranking of 197.

She told Kent on Sunday: "When I left the court I was really happy with my performance and the way I played has given me great confidence. It is just getting it on a day-to-day basis, there's still so far to go this game doesn't mean I'm there yet.

"I have to put the hours in training, that's what I'm focusing on now. For me there's no reason why I can't be in the top 100 by the end of the year, that's my aim at the moment for sure."

After years in the wilderness, women's tennis in Britain is enjoying a relative resurgence. Five players are now ranked inside the top 200 worldwide and British number one Anne Keothavong is the first to get inside the top 100 for a decade.

Cavaday agrees there is a new air of optimism among the top British players.

She said: "It's really going the right way, everyone else is working hard and the rankings are going the right way.

"I think it's fantastic I can be 190 in the world and only be the fifth highest in Britain. A year ago I would probably have been second in the country with that world ranking."

SERVING A WARNING: Naomi Cavaday

Kids go karting

CHILDREN from around the county have the chance to become the next Lewis Hamilton with the launch of Let's Go Karting at Buckmore Park.

The Let's Go Karting scheme will allow children between the ages of 8 and 16 to get behind the wheel of a Kart for a specially subsidised rate of £5.

McLaren's Formula One test driver, Gary Paffett, from Bromley, showcased his karting skills at the launch of the scheme on Monday and feels it is important for children to get involved at an early age.

Paffett told Kent on Sunday: "Motorsport is an expensive sport but this initiative gives everyone a chance to get involved.

"It's important to get as many kids as possible involved in the sport. This way we can find the ones who really enjoy it and hopefully help them find a path into motorsport."

Cricket at Canterbury

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TENNIS
Teen tennis ace Cavaday sets sights on top 100 **79**

EXCLUSIVE

By **GLENN PEARSON**

DEV: COME JOIN THE REVOLUTION

Legend calls on game's top brass to back 'rebel' Indian Cricket League

LEGENDARY all-rounder Kapil Dev has urged the England and Wales Cricket Board to take a stand and defend players that featured in the Indian Cricket League.

The former India captain returned to the Nevill Ground in Tunbridge Wells this week, 25 years on from his then world record 175 not out against Zimbabwe at the same ground.

Kapil, arguably one of the best all-rounders to have ever played the game, led his side to World Cup glory that year but he will also be remembered for the knock in 1983 which earned him the record after reaching a century from 72 balls.

The 49-year-old is now chairman of the executive board of the Indian Cricket League (ICL) – a Twenty20 competition which hit the headlines because it offers cricketers a chance to earn money similar to footballers.

However, the competition has faced problems from the start because it was set up against the wishes of the country's own cricket board and has since been labelled an 'unauthorised' and 'rebel' event by the International Cricket Council.

In an exclusive interview with Kent on Sunday, Kapil defended his decision to back the ICL and believes more county cricketers will join the league – an opinion confirmed this week after 45 per cent of 334 English players surveyed said they would consider signing knowing they would face a potential ban.

Kapil said: "When we look back we like to look at our cricketers also and I think the ICL has provided something where they can earn good wages – and that is for the common cricketer – not the elite players. What they earn in a county year they were getting in just a few weeks.

"You have to be happy about this type of revolution and you have to be careful about using this word, because as long as it doesn't harm anyone or the game, what is the problem? If you look at football and the amounts of money earned in that sport, why shouldn't cricket be the same?

"I think anyway that you can revolutionise a sport should be seen as a good thing."

Kapil is clearly a supporter of Twenty20 and believes it has breathed life back into the game. With billions of pounds being pumped into the sport in India and stadiums packed with supporters wanting to watch a three-hour, 20-over game, he feels there is enough room for both the ICL and its competitor – the Indian Premier League.

Platform

"It gives cricketers a different platform and although ICL got a bit of criticism at the start, eventually you will look back and say that it gave something to the cricketer," he said. "When you look back 10 years or 20 years the International Cricket Council didn't have even £100,000. Today we are talking about billions of dollars and television rights and it has really hit off and that is good.

"I have absolutely no doubt that ICL is here to stay. In every sense you are giving more cricket to the people and giving opportunities to young players to play with the best of the best.

"ICL should remain and should be ICC controlled. There is a monopoly and for some it's a business but for me it is promoting my sport across the world."

Kent players Azhar Mahmood and Justin Kemp both played in the ICL at the beginning of the year, but their involvement could cost the club a chance of competing in the lucrative Champions League, if they were to make finals day in the Twenty20 Cup.

Kapil has quite strong views on the matter: "I think that is where the ECB should be strong enough and stand up to the ICC. They call our league 'rebel' but who is the rebel? The Indian Cricket League pays players that have stopped playing international cricket or the sport altogether. If you tell somebody they can't play here of there then that is wrong.

"The problems can only be sorted out when the people forget their egos and try not to control everything. There is enough for everybody."

Although traditionalists argue Twenty20 could potentially harm Test cricket – a concern enhanced by a survey in which half the England team said they would consider retiring from international cricket to play in an Indian league – Kapil is confident Test cricket will remain the pinnacle.

"There is no sport in this world that can survive without the spectator," he said. "If the spectator loves it then it is a great game. The same was said when one-day cricket and day/night cricket came out with older generations of players believing it would harm Test cricket.

"Now, after 20 or more years of one-day cricket, people enjoy the fact you get a result at the end of the day.

"Of course it is up to the ICC and the cricket boards across the world to ensure Test cricket is preserved. It is always about making money now, making money will be there but you have to think about ways that the next generation have every opportunity to get into the game."

RETURN: Ex-India skipper Kapil Dev talks to sports editor Glenn Pearson at the Nevill Ground, 25 years on from when he scored a then world record 175 not out

GIVE THEM A HAND: Kapil Dev has called on the ECB to defend players who took part in ICL games
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